

Southwark Open Space Strategy

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Introduction



Introduction

Southwark is a borough that has a wealth of open space of different types including woodland, parks, community farms, Thames-side paths, and sports pitches. With a projected population increase of 19% over the next fifteen years, and limited opportunities for the creation of new space, it will be for us to maintain and improve the existing network of high quality open spaces to ensure that those that live and work in the borough experience the wide range of positive benefits associated with health and well-being, quality of life and cohesive communities that open space provides.

The Open Space Strategy is the result of several years' work beginning with the preparation of an Open Space Strategy (2003) and continuing with the publication of the Open Space Strategy Evidence Report in 2010. Since publication of the 2010 Strategy we have carried out a detailed and comprehensive audit of all open spaces within the borough, whether publicly or privately owned and whether public access is unrestricted, limited or restricted.

Southwark's community played a crucial role in developing this strategy. We carried out a telephone survey to ask residents their views about open space, and found out about how people currently use Southwark's open spaces. Workshops with 'friends of parks' and nature conservation organisations provided us with a valuable insight into the issues that are affecting our open spaces. A series of consultation workshops and a children and young people's survey was also undertaken as part of the 2010 work.



St Mary Frobisher Gardens (OS109)

The need for an open space strategy is set out in national and regional government guidance, including the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), and the London Plan. This strategy has been developed in accordance with the relevant guidance.

This strategy uses the definition of open space that is set out in the NPPF. The NPPF defines open space as all open space of public value, including not just land, but also areas of water (such as rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs) which offer important opportunities for sport and recreation and can act as a visual amenity.

The types of open space that may be of public value and are included as part of this work, include:

- Parks and gardens
- Natural and semi natural urban green spaces
- Green corridors
- Outdoor sports and play facilities
- Amenity spaces
- Provision for children and teenagers
- Allotments, community gardens and urban farms
- Cemeteries and churchyards
- Civic spaces.

We will implement the Open Space Strategy while conducting our spatial planning, cultural, parks and leisure management duties. Quality open spaces are essential to ensuring Southwark is a healthy, safe and pleasant place to live, work and visit and therefore the strategy will provide guidance across all Council functions.

The strategy sets out standards for different types of open space and recreation facilities, and provides an action plan to deliver the objectives set out in this strategy.



Belair Park (OS160)

Evidence base

This strategy is based upon a comprehensive analysis of the quantity, quality and accessibility of open space, as well as a detailed assessment of open space needs in Southwark. This evidence base is contained within the Open Space Strategy Evidence Base document which accompanies this strategy.

Strategy structure:

Local context: Summarises the local context by providing an overview of key policy documents within the borough that are of relevance to this strategy.

- **Open space needs:** Summarises open space needs within the borough as identified through detailed consultation with the borough's residents in the form of a telephone survey and a stakeholder consultation event.
- **Vision and objectives:** To guide the strategy a vision and objectives relating to open space provision have been established, these are outlined in this section of the strategy.
- **The greenspace resource:** This section sets out the key needs and priorities for the different types of open space.
- **Open space standards:** This section identifies standards for each type of open space and identifies Borough-wide measures to address deficiencies.
- **Sub-area strategies:** This section of the strategy presents an area profile, proposals to address deficiencies, measures to improve quality of spaces and potential improvements to linkages between spaces for each of the sub-areas within the borough.
- **Action plan:** The action plan sets out the actions we consider necessary in order to achieve the Open Space Strategy vision.





Local context

Local context

Planning policy

The Open Space Strategy, together with accompanying technical appendices, forms a key element of the evidence base for Southwark's planning policies.

The Core Strategy, adopted for April 2011, is the key policy document for Southwark. It puts forward a spatial vision, strategic objectives and policies for growth in the borough over the next 15 years, including locations for proposed new housing, retail and business development. The Core Strategy contains a number of policies which seek to protect and enhance open space, biodiversity and sports and leisure facilities.

Playing pitch strategy

The draft Playing Pitch Strategy, published in 2009 provides an analysis of the existing provision of sports pitches within the borough including the quantity, quality and accessibility of existing provision and consideration of future needs through assessing changes in demand.

Playing fields and pitches offer a valuable resource for informal sport and play in Southwark.

Southwark's playing pitches have an important role to play in increasing physical activity levels and improved health benefits in the borough. The strategy seeks to ensure that the borough has an accessible distribution of quality pitches and ancillary facilities that will be adequate for current and future needs.

Sport and physical activity strategy 2009-2013

The Sport and Physical Activity Strategy sets out a comprehensive action plan for sport and physical activity in Southwark. The broad aim of the strategy is to increase sport and physical activity participation in the borough. In seeking to raise activity levels across the borough, it is important that people have access to appropriate facilities and opportunities that meet their identified needs.



Durand's Wharf (OS40)

NHS Southwark's Strategic Plan 2010-2015

The five year NHS Strategic Plan sets out an ambitious programme to improve health and the provision of healthcare for Southwark residents. The Plan commits the NHS to working in partnership with a range of organisations across the borough, including the Council, on improving health for local residents. This includes plans to tackle unhealthy weight and increase levels of physical activity. Good quality open space is vital in achieving these objectives, with well designed open spaces linked to an increase in physical activity and exercise, an improvement in people's mental well-being and longer life expectancy.

Play strategy

Southwark Play Strategy sets out Southwark Council's commitment to support and develop play opportunities for children and young people in policy development, planning and service delivery.

The Play Strategy aims to promote the creation and maintenance of stimulating and challenging play environments that enable children and young people to develop their physical and social abilities. Play opportunities are supported and enhanced by being integrated within the structure of the whole outdoor environment. The strategy promotes engagement with local children and young people to ensure that the right type of facilities are provided to meet their specific needs. It is important that such play facilities are accessible and are of a suitable quality and quantity to encourage children and young people to utilise them.

Tree management strategy

The Southwark tree management strategy sets out a policy framework for the trees owned, managed and protected by the Council. The key objective of the strategy is to improve the maintenance and management of the Borough's trees in order

to enhance the condition and overall safety of Southwark's tree stock. The strategy recognises that trees have a wide range of environmental, aesthetic, economic, health and biodiversity benefits and should be protected where necessary. Trees form a key part of the character of the Borough's open spaces and also help to facilitate green links between spaces along quieter streets.

Biodiversity action plan

The Southwark Biodiversity Action Plan outlines how Southwark Council will work with its partners to conserve, enhance and promote biodiversity in London. The plan contains a number of aims and actions to elicit improvements in the status of the species and habitats listed in the Action Plan, but to also enhance biodiversity in general.



Russia Dock Woodland (OS38)



Mint Street Park (OS14)

The Open Space Strategy is a vehicle through which we can deliver some of the aims of the Biodiversity Action Plan.

Cemetery strategy

The Cemetery strategy establishes our commitment to preserve cemetery land for use as burial grounds. Cemeteries are recognised as appropriate use of Borough Open Land and Metropolitan Open Land and are a valued resource of open space in the borough. The strategy addresses the shortfall of burial space in the borough's cemeteries and sets out a detailed action plan to ensure the continuity of burial provision within Southwark until 2035. In making provision for burials the Council places a priority on the use of any currently unused land within its existing cemeteries.

Air quality improvement strategy and action plan

The air quality strategy details how we plan to make air quality a priority throughout council departments in the process of carrying out our work. This plan will be reviewed in 2017.

The air quality action plan contains measures that we propose to improve air quality in Southwark. These measures range from reducing the impact of traffic pollution to how we monitor air quality within the borough. The action plan will be reviewed annually.

Byelaws for pleasure grounds, public walks and open spaces

These byelaws control activities in pleasure grounds, public walks and open spaces. This includes byelaws on protecting these public spaces, their wildlife and the public, horse riding, cycling, children's play areas, dangerous games and sports, protection of waterways, powered model aircraft and provides for the removal of offenders.





Open space needs

Open space needs

Open space needs within the borough have been identified through detailed consultation with the borough's residents in the form a telephone survey and a stakeholder consultation event. An analysis of population density, child densities and deprivation has also been undertaken to identify areas where improvements to open space will create the most benefit to local residents.

The key open space needs can be summarised as:

- The borough's population is expected to increase by up to 19% between 2011 and 2026, which is expected to significantly increase the demand for open space. With limited opportunities to create new open space, the focus will need to be on improving the quality of, and access to, existing open space to meet this increase in demand.
- The assessment of population density and deprivation reveals that central and northern parts of the borough, including Peckham, Elephant and Castle, Borough and Bankside, parts of Bermondsey and the Aylesbury Estate as in greatest need for good quality open space to help address socio-economic issues.
- Residents are generally happy with the quality of open space and recognise its contribution to quality of life. This was identified as part of the residents' survey and confirmed in the stakeholder workshop. However there is potential for improvement, especially at smaller spaces.
- The majority of residents walk to open spaces. There is a need to ensure that open spaces are accessible by foot. This means ensuring that routes to spaces are clear, severance barriers are addressed, signage is available, entrances to spaces are welcoming and that there is sufficient provision within close to residential areas.
- There is strong support for linking up existing open spaces to improve accessibility and enhance the network of open spaces for biodiversity. Improvements to signage were seen as vital to improving links to spaces. Furthermore, open spaces need to be inviting and to have clear entrances that are welcoming to those not already familiar with the space.
- Safety is a key issue at many spaces. In response to consultation many residents said that they were not necessarily put off from using open spaces, but would like to see an increased presence of park attendees or wardens. There was also strong support for the potential to design out antisocial behaviour whilst providing activities for children and young people.
- The stakeholder consultation revealed that there is strong support for the development of more allotments and community gardens, including new sites within existing spaces and within small amenity areas.
- Although amenity spaces can be mono-functional and are often of poor quality, they are valued highly by the local community. They provide opportunities for informal recreation close to residential areas and have potential to be improved as a biodiversity and community gardening resource.
- Within parks a wider range of recreational opportunities should be provided to better meet the needs of those aged under 25 who had the lowest levels of satisfaction.
- Litter, dogs mess and the general cleanliness of the environment were major issues highlighted in relation to open space throughout the borough. To improve the maintenance and attractiveness of all spaces appropriate litter and dog bins should be provided where existing provision is inadequate. Spaces should be managed to minimise conflict between dog walking areas and spaces for formal and informal sport and children's play.

- Where appropriate, on-site amenities including benches and toilets should be provided in scale to the size and character of the space. Improvements to these facilities were identified as a priority by the residents' survey.
- Development of community gardens were seen as an important resource for the community in providing a space for active learning that is accessible to all, unlike allotments which traditionally have restrictive access.
- In larger parks, particularly those strong in biodiversity there is still potential to improve existing interpretation facilities. Such facilities could be accompanied by outdoor classrooms for use by school and community groups.
- There is a need to balance the use of open spaces for tourism and businesses, especially in the north of the borough, with the needs of local residents.
- Extensive consultation with residents confirms the need to continue to provide grave space in the Southwark's cemeteries. The council's Bereavement service is currently providing graves for around 30% of service users and research suggests that the demand for grave plots will remain constant at this level into the future.



North House Community Garden (OS106)



McDermot Grove Nature Garden (OS114)





Vision and objectives

Vision and objectives

To guide the strategy a vision and objectives relating to open space provision have been established. It responds to the issues identified through the needs assessment, resident's survey findings and issues identified through the review of open space provision.

Vision

“To encourage a diverse network of sustainable open space of high quality which meets the needs of those living and working within the borough and encourages the development of more inclusive communities, safeguards natural resources and cultural heritage, improves access to natural greenspace, provides recreational and educational opportunities and helps to promote sustainable development.”



Geraldine Mary Hamsworth Park (OS56)

Objectives

Enhance provision to meet the needs of an Increasing and changing population

Public open space is becoming increasingly important as residential densities have increased in order to make more efficient use of land and private open space has become scarcer in new housing developments. Southwark is experiencing rapid change with the development of new communities in areas such as Bankside, Elephant and Castle, Canada Water and Peckham. Large scale development poses interesting challenges and opportunities. New residents should be adequately catered for in terms of open space, cultural and recreation provision. It is crucial to ensure that the new development provides opportunities to meet this need and needs in the wider community.

Objectives

- P1 Continue to protect open space from development recognising the contribution open space makes to sustainable communities.
- P2 Ensure that where appropriate, new development includes adequate provision of a range of high quality public spaces to meet the needs of Southwark's residents.
- P3 Provide additional open space within major development opportunities at Elephant and Castle and Aylesbury Estate to address the issue of low levels of quantity of open space and to improve accessibility to open space.
- P4 Maintain high quality open spaces at Dulwich Park, Southwark Park, Peckham Rye Park and Peckham Rye Common and deliver improvements to Burgess Park so that the borough has a network of accessible, high quality Metropolitan Parks.

P5 Enhance the quality and value of natural and semi natural greenspace provision within the urban environment.

P6 Ensure that open space is well utilised, has a range of functions and is of high quality, especially in areas where the potential for additional quantitative provision of open space is limited. There is particular potential for enhancing the quality and value of smaller spaces, especially in the Peckham sub-area.

P7 Ensure that open space is accessible and continues to support tourism and businesses in the borough whilst meeting the needs of local residents. This is especially important in the Bankside, Borough and London Bridge sub-area.



Geraldine Mary Hamsworth Park (OS56)

Health and wellbeing

Good quality open spaces can make a significant contribution towards healthy living. Green spaces have a positive effect on the health of the population helping to reduce stress, provide formal and informal opportunities for physical activity, sport and play and provide environments for relaxation. Regular physical activity contributes to the prevention and management of over 20 conditions including coronary heart disease, diabetes, stress and depression and certain types of cancer and obesity.

Although some parts of Southwark perform well against national figures in terms of general health, there are pockets of the borough with a significant proportion of residents suffering from ill health. Providing open space and recreation opportunities in these areas to improve the health will be a priority for future investment.

Ill health can be an issue in preventing open space use and participating in active recreation. Our residents' survey shows that poor health is one of the most commonly stated reasons for non-use of parks. Levels of non use vary within Southwark with people in the Camberwell sub-area less likely to use open space due to ill health.

To tackle these issues and achieve better health and well being for Southwark it will be important to develop ways of making access to open spaces easier in these areas, and for those groups that find it difficult to access or use open space.

Objectives

- H1 Ensure that all residents have access to open space within a reasonable distance to their home (as set out in open space standards).
- H2 Increase the range and provision of recreation types available within open spaces.
- H3 Increase the number of people participating in active recreation / active life styles.
- H4 Promote active travel between open spaces and along green chains, networks and corridors.

- H5 Improve air quality and reduce noise pollution through the provision of open space and green chains, networks and corridors.



Bird in Bush Park (OS95)



Peckham Rye Park and Peckham Rye Common (OS124)

Regeneration

Some of the borough's housing estates built during the 1960s and 1970s are reaching the end of their life and are in the process of major redevelopment or refurbishment. The open space within these areas lacks quality and value in its current state. Regeneration of housing estates, including that underway at the Heygate Estate and the Aylesbury Estate, provides an opportunity to create open spaces that make a better contribution to quality of life and assists in the creation of sustainable neighbourhoods through both physical and social regeneration.

Involving local communities in the planning and design of regeneration schemes can foster a sense of ownership in local open space that is created, and can have long-term benefits in terms of building the capacity of the community and community cohesion.

The scale of new development in the borough provides an opportunity to improve existing open space and create new open space. Increased provision of green roofs and sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDs) as part of new development can help to make an area feel greener and contribute to the improved quality of open spaces.



Kennington Park (OS92)

Objectives

- R1 When regenerating housing estates, town centres and employment areas ensure that quality public open space and public realm are integral to the overall design.
- R2 Encourage local communities to be involved in the planning, designing and management of local open spaces.
- R3 Create a high quality network of open space and sports facilities, where necessary improving the quality of existing open spaces and ensuring new spaces are of the highest quality.
- R4 Improve existing open spaces and where practical incorporate new open spaces as part of new development.



Nursery Row Park (OS76)

Biodiversity

Southwark has a wealth of flora and fauna. The Thames is important for nature conservation given its aquatic biodiversity. Southwark is also home to larger spaces such as Sydenham Hill, Russia Dock Woodlands and Dulwich Woods, as well as a number of small community gardens in that provide a range of habitats for biodiversity.

Retaining areas of natural habitat is important to enable the protection of rare and at risk species of plants and animals. Protecting natural greenspace not only provides valuable habitat for a fragile species, when managed appropriately it can enable people to access these areas without harming species. Allowing access to wildlife areas provides an experience of nature and an opportunity to learn about the natural environment and wildlife.

As new development gathers pace in the borough it will be important to ensure that we protect the existing important habitats that we have, but also to ensure that where possible we include an element of biodiversity within new development. There are many ways that this can be achieved and developers will be encouraged to think imaginatively about how they go about doing this.

The River Thames is an important open space resource in the borough. The River Thames runs for approximately 7.2km along the northern boundary of the borough and gives the borough a unique and historic landscape character that provides a particularly valuable habitat for wildlife.

Objectives

- B1 Ensure the protection, management and enhancement of areas of importance for nature conservation and biodiversity and the linkages between them.
- B2 Encourage innovative ways of incorporating new areas of natural habitat within new and



Surrey Water (OS5)



Leathermarket Park

existing open space, natural play environments and developments.

- B3 Continue to protect and enhance the River Thames, its natural and historic landscape and character, as well as its value for biodiversity.

Community cohesion

Parks and open spaces are an important resource that everyone should be able to take advantage of. In some cases anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime puts people off using spaces. Crime and anti-social behaviour has been identified as an issue during our consultation process. When we asked residents what improvements we could make to open spaces the second most common answer was 'improved safety'.

When parks are well maintained and well used there is a sense that they are cared for and people feel safer using them. Encouraging greater use of open space, and fostering a sense of community ownership, as well as ensuring a high standard of maintenance will be important in achieving a greater sense of community safety.



Dog Kennel Hill (OS119)

In designing new open space or redesigning existing open spaces, it is desirable to introduce elements of design that reduce the possibility for anti-social behaviour to occur. This could be introducing elements of natural surveillance, designing facilities that are difficult to vandalise, clearly defining the uses of space, providing appropriate landscaping and lighting to name a few. It is important to recognise that different groups use open space in different ways, providing an appropriate area for different activities to take place can often resolve some of the conflicts that arise.

In response to consultation, many people said they would like to see a more visible official presence in parks, either through an increased ranger service, park wardens or mobile play rangers and community sports coaches. We will work with the police and community to establish the best methods for achieving community safety in parks.

Objectives

- Co1 Encourage greater use of open space in order to improve natural surveillance.
- Co2 Ensure that all our open spaces are safe to use.
- Co3 Encourage a greater sense of ownership.



Leathermarket Gardens (OS119)

Tackling inequality

Our residents' survey helped to identify patterns of use and attitudes towards open spaces in Southwark. The survey identified generally high levels of satisfaction with the level of open space provision in the borough and there was no significant variation between age groups or genders. However, the survey showed that older people are much less likely to visit open spaces. While 10% of respondents overall stated that they never visited open spaces, this rose to 20% among those aged between 65-79 and 50% of those aged over 80. Of those who never visit open spaces, 17% cited poor health as the main reason.

There were also significant variations between areas. The highest proportion of residents that do not use open space were from the sub-areas of Walworth and Aylesbury (19%) and Elephant and Castle (15%). In comparison the Dulwich sub-area had the lowest proportion of non-use at just 2%. This roughly reflects satisfaction with open spaces: 91% of respondents in Dulwich said they were satisfied with open spaces compared to 71% in Elephant and Castle.

The survey also showed that perceptions of the contribution which open space makes to quality of life varied significantly by age. A lower proportion of those aged 16-24 (76%) felt that open space contributed a little or a lot to their quality of life compared to those aged 50-64 (91%). The survey showed that men were more likely to visit outdoor sports facilities than women, while women were more likely to visit children's play facilities. When asked what improvements could be made to open space, 19% of respondents cited a cleaner environment (less litter, graffiti, dog mess, etc), 12% said provision of park rangers/wardens and 11% mentioned more/improved safety facilities.

With regard to transport, while most people said they travelled to open space on foot, some people do rely on public transport to get to larger open spaces, cemeteries and the Thames Path.



Tabard Gardens (OS46)



Tabard Gardens (OS46)

These findings emphasise the need to ensure that open spaces can cater for the needs and priorities of all users. This is particularly important in areas in which the population, due to a number of factors such as health deprivation, lack of access to private garden space, higher child densities, higher levels of social and economic deprivation and higher population densities, would be expected to have a greater need for open space (see figure 6.1 for a map showing need for open space). Some of these areas, including Aylesbury and Elephant and Castle also coincide with the areas in which the greatest number of respondents to the survey stated that they never visit open spaces.

Objectives

- T1 Ensure that Southwark provides a range of open space, sport and recreation opportunities that meet the differing needs of Southwark's diverse community.
- T2 Encourage greater use of open spaces by non users and infrequent users by improving the range of recreational opportunities within spaces close to employment areas.

- T3 Make open spaces feel safer to use by all sections of the population, through improving usage and movement through spaces, making open space environments less intimidating, addressing anti-social behaviour through design and addressing policing. Graffiti found on park buildings and equipment should be removed promptly.
- T4 Improve the accessibility of spaces. Larger parks should be accessible by public transport. Cycle parking should be provided at all parks as well as other spaces with sports provision. All open space facilities should be DDA compliant.
- T5 Provide a greater range of facilities for teenagers and young people, including a greater range of recreation opportunities and designated areas for hanging out.
- T6 Ensure that open space in the south of the borough, notably around Dulwich, can be used by other borough residents by opening up spaces to public use and improving routes to these spaces.
- T7 Promote social inclusion, tackle deprivation and discrimination by ensuring that the River Thames and the Thames Path are accessible to everyone

Education and culture

Open spaces can provide both a valuable educational and cultural resource for children and adults alike. Educational use of open space can be on an organised basis as part of the school curriculum for sports or for environmental studies, or can be on a more informal basis through the provision of nature walks or interpretation of natural or historical features.

43% of Southwark's open spaces have an existing educational role of some sort. Existing educational use includes spaces for organised school sports, as well as several open spaces that are used for environmental study such as Surrey Docks Farm and London Wildlife Trust Centre for Wildlife Gardening, and several that include historical interpretation such as Geraldine Mary Harmsworth Park. The potential

for more of our open spaces to be used in this way has been identified and will be pursued through this strategy.

Open spaces can also represent a source of wider social benefits and cultural value providing the setting for sport, community meetings, fairs, firework displays, picnics etc. Open spaces which host small and large events can help create a sense of community; open space can provide opportunities for social interaction and the development of social capital through family and group outings, community events and activities.

Southwark already has a number of open spaces that provide dedicated venues and facilities to support cultural events. The challenge will be to identify other open spaces that have the potential to accommodate cultural events and to provide a broader programme of events in future.

Objectives

- E1 Improve the provision of educational information within open spaces, particularly that relate to ecological, horticultural and heritage issues. This could take the form of portable media such as pamphlets or even tours or simple display boards.
- E2 Improve the provision of spaces for cultural events such as bandstands, amphitheatres.
- E3 Improve the provision of spaces for meeting and congregation to promote social interaction such



Little Dorrit Park (OS16)



Russia Dock Woodland (OS38)

as picnic areas and youth shelters and seating areas and built facilities where appropriate.

- E4 Promote and support the use of Southwark's open space as an interesting outdoor learning arena for schools and the general public.
- E5 Ensure that parks and open spaces are used to their full potential as venues for a range of cultural and community events, in a range of locations throughout the borough.
- E6 Encourage the recreational use of the River Thames and ensure effective use of the waterfront.
- E7 Work with schools to make better use of open spaces and to take part in community food growing opportunities.

Heritage and design

Many of Southwark's existing open spaces contribute towards the designation and significance of heritage assets. Open spaces can form part of the reasons for designating conservation areas and help provide the setting to listed buildings. Open spaces such as registered parks and gardens or London Squares defined by the London Squares Preservation Act 1931, can also be heritage assets in their own right.

33% of open space in the borough has been identified as having a significant heritage value. This includes five registered parks and gardens; Nunhead Cemetery, Peckham Rye Park and Common and Piermont Green, Belair park, Dulwich Park and Southwark Park.

Objectives

- D1 Conserve and enhance the setting of heritage assets by protecting and improving open spaces in conservation areas.
- D2 Conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of this and future generations;
- D3 Promote the recognition of important spaces for their historic value. This could be through improved signage and provision of information at the open spaces as well as increased marketing to promote tourism.
- D4 Protect open spaces from overshadowing as a result of new development.

Climate change

Open spaces can help to mitigate climate change and also have a role in adapting to future more extreme weather conditions. Landscaped open space helps to reduce the effects of urban heat islands by helping clean and cool the air, and providing more effective stormwater management. A heat island is created when large areas of heat-absorbing surfaces such as roads, car parks and buildings found in urban environments, retain and radiate solar heat energy. As this warmer moist air rises, cloud condensation may occur resulting in more frequent storms. Because of the largely impervious paving present in urban areas, there is an increased likelihood of urban flooding. Warmer temperatures caused by heat island effect also exacerbate air pollution because smog is produced faster at higher temperatures.

Objectives

- C1 Improve open space and protect against the fragmentation of open space to maximise biodiversity through the development of site management plans.
- C2 Adopt planning policies that facilitate the protection and enhancement of open spaces, biodiversity and open space, as well as the creation of new open areas in new development schemes.
- C3 Adopt planning policies that seek to reduce levels of water consumption in new developments
- C4 Incorporate innovative planting schemes to reduce water use in parks and open spaces
- C5 Encourage the provision of green roofs and Sustainable Urban Drainage systems including features such as rain gardens as part of new development.





The greenspace resource

The greenspace resource

This section sets out the key needs and priorities for the different types of open space in Southwark.

Networks, chains and grids

Green spaces have an intrinsic value in their own right, however there are benefits in creating and enhancing links between green spaces. In particular public access to a range of open space types can be improved by enhancing green links. Southwark has an extensive network of parks and open spaces which have a varied character including natural woodland, parkland, playing fields, cemeteries, allotment gardens, amenity places and play areas.

The existing green infrastructure in Southwark includes some valuable assets, such as the Thames Path, which not only provide links to other spaces within the borough, but also form part of the wider London network.

The South East London Green Chain is a linked system of some 300 open spaces, in the London boroughs of Greenwich, Bromley, Bexley, Lewisham and Southwark. There are a variety of different open spaces in the Green Chain including: parks; ancient woodlands; allotments and school playing fields. The network has been expanded to include a number of spaces within the south of the borough, including Dulwich Park, Sydenham Hill and Dulwich Woods and Nunhead Cemetery. Southwark officers attend the Green Chain Working Party to work with neighbouring boroughs on protecting and improving the Green Chain. There is potential for these links to be extended to other spaces in the borough.

The London boroughs have been able to protect the Green Chain from built development; protect and enhance visual amenity and biodiversity; and provide a range of recreational facilities and opportunities.

The London Plan promotes the idea of the open space network as an integrated system containing many uses and performing a wide variety of functions. The All London Green Grid (ALGG) aims to create a network of interlinked and high quality

open and green spaces that connect with town centres, public transport nodes, the countryside in the urban fringe, the Thames and major employment and residential areas.

The stakeholder consultation group identified that improving links between existing spaces should be seen as a priority for the borough. This could be carried out comparatively easily, by reducing the impact of traffic along certain routes (possibly under the umbrella of existing safe routes to school programmes), with traffic calming measures, and making safe places for people to cross roads. These measures, in addition to the planting of shrubs and/or trees along streets, would create a more pleasant environment for walking along, whilst also providing a more continuous network for wildlife.

Green chains, networks and grids can help to achieve a number of council objectives including to help to promote sustainable travel by creating safe and attractive routes for walking and cycling, improving health by promoting active travel and contributing to improved biodiversity by providing increased habitat and migration routes for wildlife.

During consultation on the strategy, several respondents commented that links between open spaces can have a variety of different functions and characteristics depending on their size and location. Different types of green links can include:

- Green links - these are links which join one green space to another by extending the amount of green between the two. These can form pedestrian pathways and woodland edges. These links can improve biodiversity by providing habitats and enabling wildlife to move between open spaces. Examples include Dock Hill Avenue, Barry Road and the route through Peckham Rye Park.
- Quiet green routes – these are links which are lightly trafficked roads and streets used by cyclists with trees and other planting designed to slow car traffic and to improve and green the overall environment. Creating them can involve

widening or building out pavements or planting more trees and other forms of greenery. Examples include Greendale playing field.

- Greened main roads - these are links that are often already heavily planted with mature trees. In many cases this planting is part of the historic townscape which contributes significantly to their character and reinforces the perception of them as pleasant and attractive routes. Examples include Denmark Hill, Champion Park and Borough Road.

The aim will be to provide a series of differing lengths of routes accessible to the public, as footpaths and/or cycle routes, linking important green spaces together, and picking out areas, features and buildings of historical or other importance, to provide points of interest between them. Where possible, the start and finish points of these routes should link closely to public transport, thereby allowing ease of access to them, to a wider range of the population.

Establishing links between open spaces

The following points will be considered when identifying links between open spaces.

- Where possible routes should be in green spaces and off-road. However, there are limited opportunities to create truly off-street green links within the borough.
- There are opportunities to utilise and enhance the publicly accessible linear green routes such as Greendale and Surrey Canal Walk; Deal Porters Walk, Surrey Canal Walk to Peckham, Russia Dock Woodland to Durand's Wharf and Greenland Dock, and the Thames Path.
- Where off-road routes are not possible, quieter, suburban, tree-lined streets will be identified as potential links between spaces. This may require the enhancement of the public realm and the introduction of pedestrian and cycle crossings at particular locations to address severance issues.
- Suburban street patterns can often be disorientating and many of the borough's green spaces are hidden from view. The network



One Tree Hill (OS150)



Russia Dock Woodland (OS38)

will need to be clearly signed, potentially accompanied by maps produced by the Council or local stakeholder groups.

- There is potential to include historical, ecological and cultural information as part of these walks for leisure purposes.
- The network will link in with other walking and cycling initiatives including the Green Chain Network and the borough's cycle routes.
- There is potential to enhance the network of spaces that are on, or close to, the Thames Path, as well as routes from open spaces to the Thames.

- Greening streets by planting appropriate species of trees is one of a series of measures which can be employed to improve links between open spaces. Trees provide the aesthetic qualities required in softening the hard edges of the built environment and assisting in limiting or buffering harmful emissions of air and noise pollution.
- To maximise ecological and biodiversity benefits an appropriate tree density would be approximately 80 trees per linear km or 2 per 25m on each side of the street, whichever is the greater. This would provide a continuous coverage of tree crown cover for a typical London Plane tree.

The sub-area chapter identifies potential links between open spaces within each of the borough's sub-areas.

Parks

Parks are an important part of our greenspace network providing relief from the built up environment and adding and helping to define our neighbourhoods. Parks are multi-functional spaces for numerous sporting or informal activities, including playing fields, children's play for different age groups, and informal recreation pursuits such as sitting out or enjoying nature.

Southwark has 245 hectares of public parkland in the borough, this represents 44% of all open space in the borough. Large parks are the type of open space that people in Southwark use most.

Although Southwark is reasonably well served by parks there are gaps in park provision. Some areas do not have sufficient access to provision.

Although there are deficiencies in park provision, in many of these areas there are other types of open space available to the public, in developing our action plan for the borough we have taken these other types of open space into account in developing the measures to meet deficiencies.



Geraldine Mary Hamsworth Park (OS56)



Potters Fields (OS4)

The deficiencies in quantity of park provision and accessibility to parks although important issues that need to be addressed will also need to be tackled alongside the issue of quality. Those parks that are currently poor quality will need to be upgraded. Where quality is poor, this is often as a result of the built infrastructure within the park rather than maintenance. It will be particularly important to prioritise investment in those poor quality parks that are in areas of greatest open space need.

Specific parks in need of quality improvements are identified in the sub-area strategies.

Children's play areas and spaces for young people

Open space provides an important role in serving children's play needs. It is widely acknowledged that the importance of children's play extends far beyond the activity itself. Play contributes towards child development through the development of a wide range of physical, social and emotional skills and abilities.

Children's play can take place anywhere and in a variety of environments, including parks, housing estate amenity areas, and dedicated children's play areas. There is a need to provide children with a variety of play experiences which can either take place informally, or within dedicated areas of provision, such as play areas, adventure playgrounds, and multi-use games areas. Provision of a range of facilities that meet the needs of children of different ages is important to ensure that there are opportunities for all children to play.

There are currently 78 open spaces that include some form of dedicated children's play provision, although there are a range of other amenity spaces which also include open space. Children need to be able to access play provision close to their home. Children find it difficult to travel long distances to use play areas, particularly if they have to cross busy roads. Lack of access to open space nearby, can mean that children have to rely on being supervised by parents or carers, which restricts a child's freedom to play.

The Southwark Play Strategy (2007) provides a comprehensive analysis of the supply of play facilities and identifies broad areas of need:

- There is a need for more play provision in the south of the borough, as identified by the Dulwich Community Council. Our 2010 open space evidence base work and this study have also identified a lower amount of provision in the south of the borough compared to other areas.

- There is a need for more play provision that is suitable for 11 -16 year olds. This was also confirmed to still be a relevant issue by the stakeholder consultation.
- There is a need for further closed access play opportunities for disabled children, particularly those with special educational needs, requiring a secure environment.
- There is a need for more family-friendly play spaces.
- Girls are under-represented in some open access provision, including adventure playgrounds.

The stakeholder consultation also identified that there is potential to involve children and young people in decision making and the design of new facilities. This will help to engender a sense of ownership in local play spaces.



Belair Park (OS160)



St Mary Frobisher Gardens (OS109)

Natural and semi natural greenspaces

Natural greenspaces are open spaces that include areas of woodland (coniferous, deciduous, mixed) and scrub, grassland (e.g. downland, meadow), heath or moor, wetlands (e.g. marsh, fen), open and running water, and wastelands (including disturbed ground). Natural greenspaces not only provide valuable habitat for wildlife, but can provide stimulating and unique recreational experiences such as natural play spaces, that are significantly different to the experience users find in urban parks. Natural greenspaces require appropriate management to ensure the long term contribution to improving biodiversity.

There is 518 hectares of natural greenspace within the borough, including the Thames. A number of sites in the borough have been designated as

being either of Metropolitan Importance (5 sites), of borough Importance Grade I (17 sites) or II (22 sites) or of Local Importance (28 sites), protection of these sites is crucial to maintaining a high level of biodiversity in the borough.

Access to greenspace in Southwark is generally very good. Most people within the borough have access to a site of designated ecological importance within 1km of their home. We have identified that the quality of some natural greenspace is below the standard that should be expected of a publicly accessible open space. Where this is the case the spaces should be improved, those natural greenspaces that are identified for improvement are set out in the Action Plan and identified in the sub-area strategies.



Russia Dock Woodland (OS38)

Allotments and community gardens

Allotments and community gardens have an important role in providing access to affordable fresh vegetables, physical exercise and social activity. In recent years the popularity of allotment gardening has increased, partly as a result of new developments lacking private garden space and partly as increasing awareness of environmental issues have focused on the need for localised food production and the environmental benefits that this can bring in terms of reducing the use of energy and materials for processing, packaging and distributing food. Allotments and community gardens have an important role to play in the implementation of plans for encouraging local sustainable and community development, and also perform a role in the recycling of green waste. There is potential educational and economic value to promoting community food growing opportunities.

There are currently 12 allotment sites and 9 spaces identified as community gardens in borough, as well as Surrey Docks Farm. These sites collectively provide 18.9 hectares of allotment, community garden and urban farm space. There are currently large waiting lists for allotment plots, and demand is expected to continue to grow meaning that there will be a need for a considerable increase in provision. The north of the borough is particularly poorly served by allotments in terms of quantity and accessibility. There are a number of wards that currently have no provision at all and large proportions of the residents are beyond the catchment of allotments and community gardens.

Proposals for new housing development should be accompanied by proposals to improve allotment provision or other food growing opportunities, especially in the north of the borough. The nature of such improvements should reflect the additional open space needs generated as a result of the proposed development but also take into consideration average garden sizes. Developments should also include community gardens, window

boxes and planted green roofs, to provide further opportunities for gardening.

There are likely to be few opportunities to create new open space within the borough, and any new open space created is likely to be better utilised as publicly accessible park space as a result of the increased pressure on limited open space from a growing population. As a result, new allotments and community gardens may have the potential to be created at existing open spaces.



Grange Road Allotments (OS178)

Alternative gardening projects

Because Southwark has very high levels of demand for allotments but limited opportunities for new provision, the borough is likely to find it very difficult to meet demand. However, there are opportunities to increase access to food growing through alternative gardening projects.

We support alternative gardening projects by offering temporary access to local authority owned land that is not suited for the creation of allotments. This may be due to the restricted scale of the site, or difficulties that would arise from attempts to exclude broader public access.

Development sites which are currently left dormant also opens up the possibility of exploiting privately held stocks of undeveloped land for temporary gardening use. This could be in bare earth where the land is uncontaminated or in containers such as raised beds and builders bags when soil is inaccessible or suspect.

Community gardens

With such a long allotments waiting list, we will actively promote alternative means of food growing, such as community gardening. There are already a number of initiatives in Southwark that offer people opportunities to derive the benefits associated with food growing and gardening in general.

Community gardens aim to address health inequalities through ensuring that everybody is both welcome and can become involved. The promotion of mental and physical health, and building inclusive communities, are core aspects of the approach.

Environmental sustainability is also central, through the production of locally grown food and the use of techniques such as composting. There are a number of community gardens within Southwark. Projects such as Tabard Gardens Community Allotments aim to allow local people to grow their own fruit and vegetables, learn about gardening, healthy eating

and teamwork with a view to increasing the health of the local community.

We will consider the following when encouraging the use of community gardens:

- The development of guidelines for community groups looking to use Council owned land for community gardens and other food growing initiatives.
- The provision of advice and support to groups looking to develop community gardens and other food growing initiatives.
- Creation of a comprehensive list of community gardens and food growing initiatives in Southwark, and set up information-sharing network.
- Promotion of community gardens and other food growing initiatives to those on the allotment



Walworth City Farm (OS81)

Amenity space

Amenity space provides a less formal green space experience than the borough's parks and gardens. Amenity sites have the potential to provide important spaces for informal recreation, including informal play and dog walking, close to where people live or work, and where access to a park may not be available.

Some amenity spaces in the north of the borough already perform a range of functions, including small spaces for community gardening, biodiversity and informal recreation.

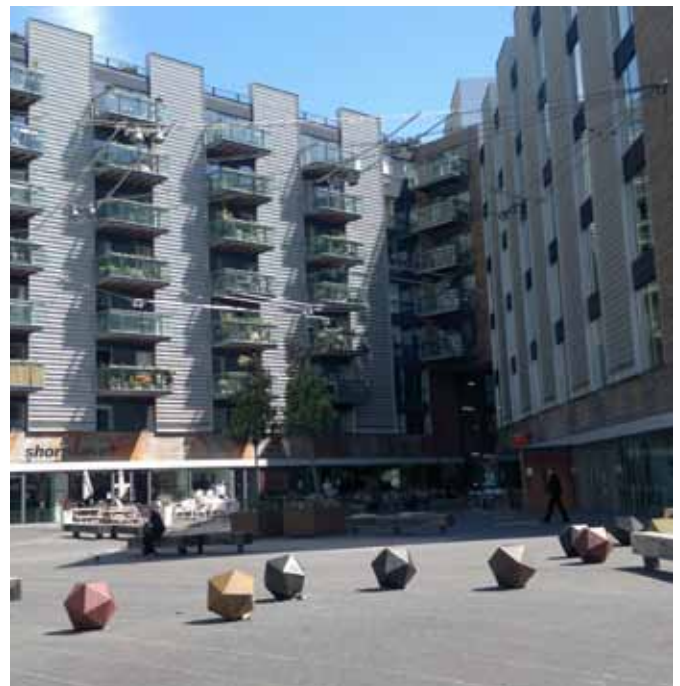
Many amenity open space sites in the borough are relatively simplistic and are generally of poorer quality than other types of open space. In many cases, housing amenity space has a very limited recreational or visual amenity role. The design and function of these spaces needs to be reviewed together with the provision of other types of provision, particularly play and youth facilities, on housing estates to ensure they add value to local residents.

The Council, as well as the borough's registered providers will identify opportunities to improve amenity space on housing estates.

Many of the borough's development sites are of a size which will be unable to provide new park spaces as an integral part of the development. Instead, many development opportunities offer the potential for amenity space. It will therefore be critical that any new open space created as a result of new development is of high quality, is distinctive and offers an appropriate range of recreational functions.



Barclay Way (OS163)



Bermondsey Square (OS50)





Open space standards

Open space standards

Consistent with Government guidance, we have come up with a series of open space standards which we will seek to maintain. These standards have been derived following detailed consultation with the local residents on attitudes to open space and open space use, as well as benchmarking with other London boroughs and national and regional guidance.

The purpose of these standards is to give adequate levels of provision for each type of open space within the borough based upon the existing needs and future needs of the borough up to 2026. The standards, identified in Table 6.1, will enable the preparation of planning policies to protect existing open spaces and to identify areas where additional open space provision is required.

Government guidance recommends that local authorities set local provision standards which incorporate a quantitative, qualitative and accessibility component. Further details of how each component of the standard has been derived are set out below.

Open space needs

There are a number of issues which influence the need for open space in different parts of the borough. These include population densities, child densities, health, the proportion of dwellings which are flats and therefore less likely to have private back gardens social and economic deprivation. Areas in which there are more children, higher populations, more household living in flats and with greater concentrations of deprivation are more likely to need open spaces. These issues are overlaid in Figure 6.1 to show a composite assessment of need (it should be noted that Figure 6.1 relates to need rather than existing provision of open space which is shown on Figures 6.2 and 6.3). It will be particularly important to ensure access to good quality open space within these areas of high need.

Quantity standards

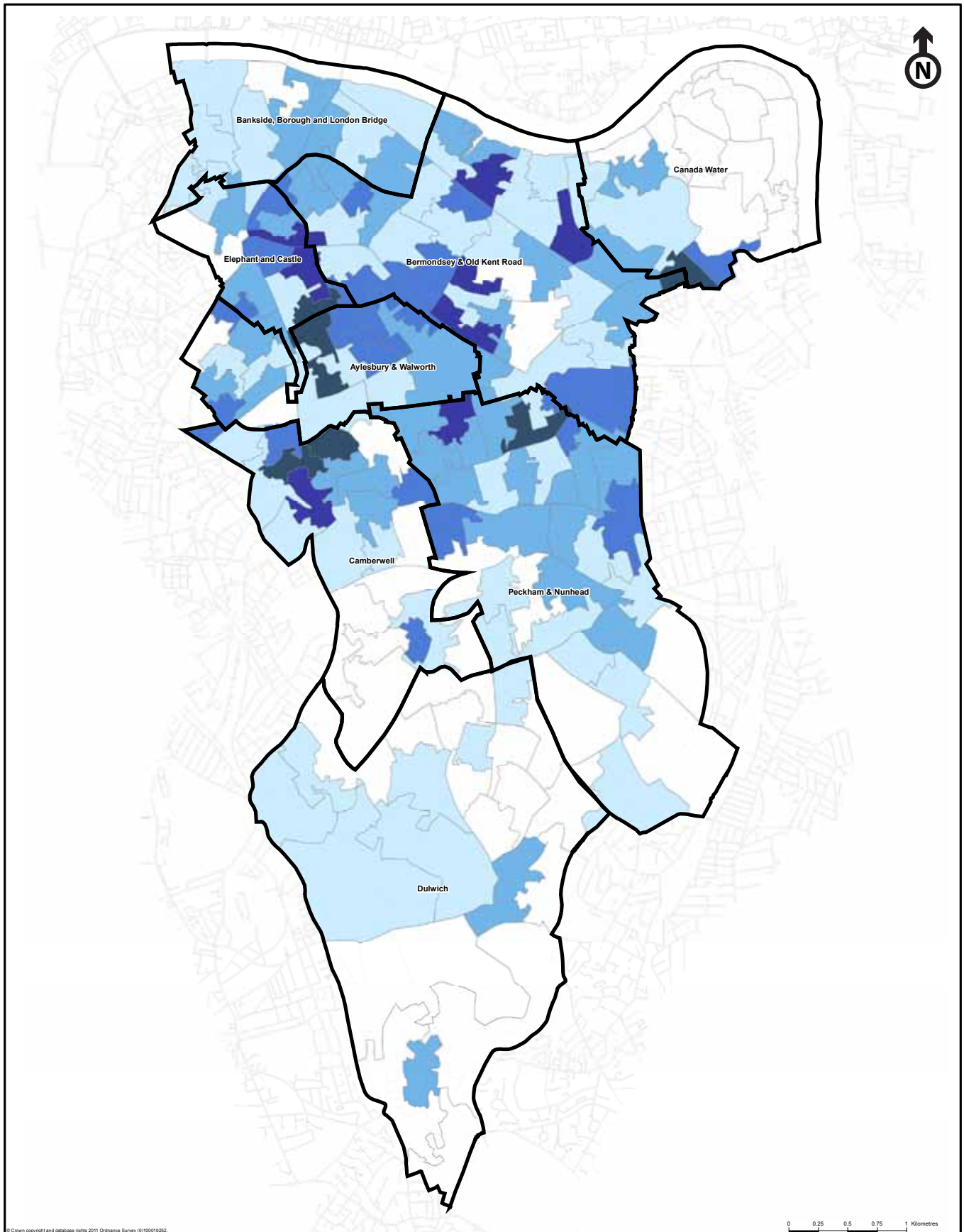
A quantity standard for each type of open space enables us to identify which areas of the borough fall below the standard and should therefore be targeted for future investment to improve open space provision.

We have followed Government guidance and taken into account the following in the derivation of the quantity standards:

- The current level of provision.
- The growth of the population of the borough leading up to 2026.
- The results of the residents' survey and stakeholder consultation.
- Consideration of whether the quality of parks and other open spaces constrain use of parks and whether this needs to be factored in to the quantity standard.
- Benchmarking of standards with other local authorities.
- National standards.
- Consideration of what would be a realistic level of open space provision.

The evidence base document provides full details of how the quantity standards for each type of open space have been derived. The broad approach is to safeguard all existing spaces within the borough and to create new provision where opportunities allow.

Quantity standards have been developed for all types of open space with the exception of allotments, civic spaces and housing amenity spaces. It is expected that, for these types of open space, a design led approach would be used to identify the level of provision appropriate to the context and the scale and type of the individual residential, employment or mixed use development. Our Residential Design Standards SPD provides information on the amount of open space provision sought within residential areas.



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Legend

- No. Indicators of Need Borough Sub-Areas
- 0
 - 1
 - 2
 - 3
 - 4
 - 5



CLIENT	LB Southwark
PROJECT	Southwark Open Space Study

TITLE		
Figure 6.1 - Composite Need Analysis		
SCALE	DATE	DRAWN
1:25,000	28/06/2011	SWK

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Legend	
	Pocket Park
	Small Open Space
	Local Park
	District Park
	Metropolitan Park
	280m Catchment Area
	400m Catchment Area
	Borough Sub-Areas

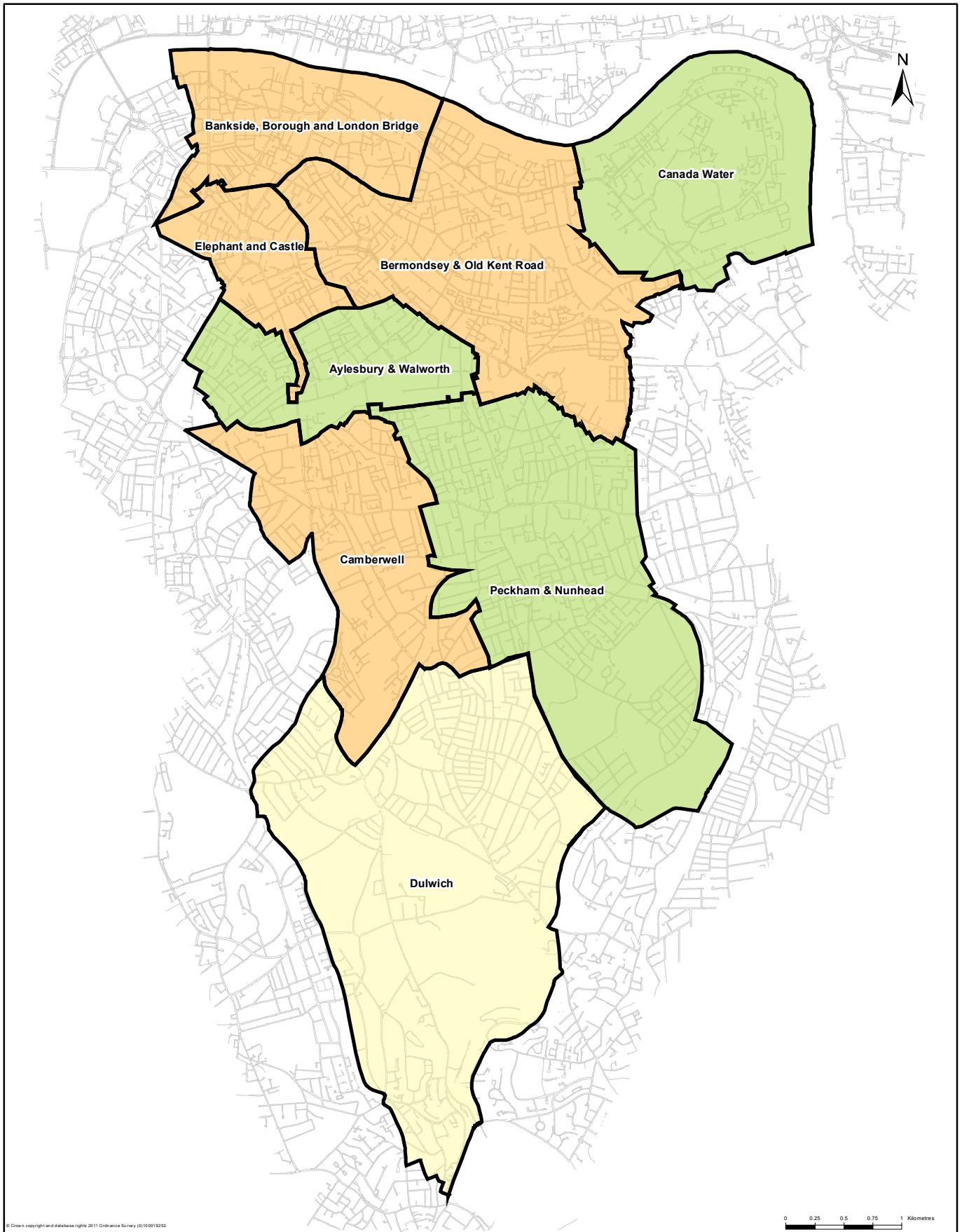
ATKINS

CLIENT	LB Southwark
PROJECT	Southwark Open Space Study

TITLE		
Figure 6.2 – Accessibility to all Park Types		
SCALE	DATE	DRAWN
1:14,000	15/07/2011	SWK



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0 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Kilometres

Legend

- Level of park provision above borough standard
- Level of park provision in line with the borough standard
- Level of park provision below borough standard

ATKINS

CLIENT
LB Southwark

PROJECT
Southwark Open Space Study

TITLE
Figure 6.3 - Park Provision by Sub-Area

SCALE	DATE	DRAWN
1:40,000	28/06/2011	SWK

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Quality standards

The Council will seek to ensure that all open spaces are of good quality and provide a range of facilities associated with the size and type of each space. The quality of each space has been assessed as part of the open space audit which has informed this strategy. The quality of the borough's parks will be assessed against the criteria used by the Green Flag Award Scheme, which represents the national standard for quality parks and green spaces.

The Green Flag Award is the benchmark national standard for parks and green spaces in the United Kingdom. The scheme was set up in 1996 to recognise and reward green spaces in England and Wales that met high standards. It is also seen as a way of encouraging others to achieve the same high environmental standards, creating a benchmark of excellence in recreational green areas. Sites for a Green Flag Award are judged against eight key criteria:

- A welcoming place
- Healthy, safe and secure
- Clean and well maintained
- Sustainability
- Conservation and heritage
- Community involvement
- Marketing
- Management

The Queen Elizabeth II (QEII) Fields Challenge is a UK wide programme to celebrate HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee by permanently protecting 2,012 outdoor recreational spaces. Landowners can nominate a range of spaces including sports pitches, playgrounds and parks. We will consider nominating parks in Southwark for QEII status where we feel a site is a valuable recreation resource to demonstrate our commitment to the importance of recreational open space and to seek additional funding for small scale improvements.

Accessibility standards

Accessibility standards seek to ensure that all residents of the borough are within a maximum distance to open space. Accessibility standards have been based on guidance provided by the Mayor, and have been verified by data collected by as part of the residents' survey. Figure 6.1 (opposite) illustrates the application of the park accessibility standards which shows that the borough has relatively good coverage, with only some areas of the Dulwich sub-area deficient in access to park provision. Potential measures to improve access to open space are considered in the sub-area strategies in Chapter 7.

Improving open space provision to meet our standards

Over the next 15 years, development will put additional pressure on existing open spaces. It is therefore important that development proposals help to improve open space provision. We will use different sources of funding such as section 106 funding, the community infrastructure levy (CIL), Cleaner Greener Safer funding and other council budgets to deliver improvements for open space. We will also work with local voluntary groups to facilitate improvements to our open spaces.

We currently use section 106 planning obligations to ensure that developments make a financial contribution to improving open space provision. In the future development will contribute to open space provision through the community infrastructure levy (CIL). Using these contributions, we will prioritise improving the quality of spaces, including using green flag criteria in the case of larger parks, improving the range of facilities which are available in open spaces to increase their value to local people, improving their nature conservation value to help bring all parts of the borough up to the natural greenspace standard, improving children's play facilities and incorporating food growing opportunities where appropriate.

Occasionally, we will seek to negotiate provision of publically accessible open space on a development site taking into account the following factors:

- The size of the site and the practicality of making on-site provision of open space.
- The additional open space users which development of the site will generate.
- The accessibility of the site to existing publically accessible open space.
- The quantity of park provision in the area. There will be greater priority for securing new open spaces in areas in which the quantity of park provision does not meet the borough standard (see Table 6.2 opposite).
- The need for open space, taking into account factors including child population density, health and deprivation, as shown on Figure 6.1.
- Ensuring that there is a sustainable mechanism for maintaining the space after it has been provided.

The evidence base which accompanies this strategy has identified areas of the borough which are below the borough average and which are therefore considered deficient in provision (see Table 6.2). Specific measures for meeting deficiencies and improving individual spaces are identified in the sub-area strategies in Chapter 7.

In preparing area-based documents such as supplementary planning documents and area action plans, we will identify opportunities for new open spaces, using the criteria we set out above. In 2013 we will also carry out a review of our Local Plan which will identify sites on which on-site provision of open space will be required.

Open space	Quantity standard	Accessibility standard	Quality standards
Parks	0.72 ha of park space per 1,000 population	Metropolitan Parks – 3.2km District Parks – 1.2km	All spaces should meet Green Flag standard wherever possible
		Local Parks, Small Local Park or	
		Pocket Park – 400m	
Children's Play	10sq.m per child, including formal and informal provision	Small areas for play for younger children – 100m Local facilities – 400m Larger equipped areas of play for older children – 800m	Children's play provision should be of adequate quality and provide a range of facilities associated with the size of the facility. The playable space typology should be used to assess levels of adequacy in terms of the range and quality of provision
Natural Greenspace	1.5ha of natural greenspace per 1,000 population	Maximum of 500m from Sites of Borough Importance for Nature Conservation	Areas of natural and semi-natural greenspace should be of adequate quality and support local biodiversity
Allotments/ Community gardens	No quantity standard	All allotment and community garden facilities – 1.2km	Allotment and community garden sites should be of adequate quality and support the needs of the local community.
Amenity Greenspace	Set out within our Residential Design Standards SPD	No standard – should be design-led	Amenity space provision within the borough should be of adequate quality and provide a range of facilities associated with the size of the facility

Table 6.1 – Open Space Standards

Sub-area	Public park provision	Natural Greenspace
Bankside, Borough and London Bridge	Below borough standard	Below borough standard
Elephant and Castle	Below borough standard	Below borough standard
Bermondsey and Old Kent Road	Below borough standard	Below borough standard
Canada Water and Rotherhithe	Above borough standard	Above borough standard
Aylesbury and Walworth	Above borough standard	Above borough standard
Camberwell	Below borough standard	Below borough standard
Peckham and Nunhead	Above borough standard	Above borough standard
Dulwich	In line with borough standard	Above borough standard

Table 6.2 – Sub-areas deficient in quantity of open space

Approach to the protection of open spaces

Government guidance states that all open spaces which are of value to the community should be protected. The evidence base has identified that all open spaces considered within this work do have value and we will therefore continue to protect them from inappropriate development. This approach is based upon the following analysis

- Open space needs across the borough are generally high with a relatively high population of dwellings without private gardens and high population densities in some areas.
- The level of public park provision per population is lower than other London boroughs, largely as a result of high population densities.
- The development proposals put forward in the Core Strategy are expected to generate an increase in population of 19% between 2011 and 2026. This will increase demand for open space in the borough. Current levels of open space should be protected to meet this forecast increase in demand.
- The quality and value of most open space was identified to be relatively high. This was confirmed by the residents' survey identified a high level of satisfaction with the current level of provision, both in terms of quality and access.
- Those spaces which are of relatively low quality and value have the potential to be improved to meet the growing demand for open space, as well as potentially addressing open space deficiencies, such as access to allotments and community gardens or natural greenspace in the north of the borough.

Other measures which help create a green environment

Across the borough, we will support a range of additional measures to enhance open space provision, including

- Investigating the potential to introduce new habitat creation at existing open spaces.
- Encouraging green roofs and living walls as part of development proposals.
- Improving the quality and role of amenity space, including small scale improvements to encourage biodiversity.
- Encouraging roof gardens, including publicly accessible spaces at new and existing developments where possible.
- Encouraging the development of further community gardens, potentially within areas of new development and within housing amenity sites.
- Increasing provision of trees throughout the sub-area especially along key links between spaces where there is a sustainable funding source to maintain them.
- Encouraging sustainable urban drainage systems including features such as rain gardens to be incorporated into new and existing developments where possible.





Sub-area strategies

Sub-area strategies

Bankside, Borough and London Bridge

Area profile

Bankside, Borough and London Bridge is a very diverse area which has been subject to considerable change in recent years. The sub-area has been designated an opportunity area in the London Plan which recognises that there are tremendous opportunities to create a world city quarter containing successful business districts, sustainable residential neighbourhoods and world class services.

The continuous, traffic-free walking route along the south bank of the Thames has helped create a chain of high quality visitor and cultural attractions in the north of the sub-area, whilst other parts of the area consist of social housing estates (especially towards the southern sections of the sub-area), commercial offices, mixed use units and a wide range of private sector housing built during the past 300 years, with some units even older.

The sub-area has a relatively limited amount of open space provision, consisting largely of small squares and churchyards, which is typical of a dense urban environment within central London, although there is provision for court sports and children's play at a number of small open spaces towards the south of the sub-area.

The sub-area has a total of 0.25ha of park provision per 1,000 population, which is well below the standard of 0.72ha per 1,000 population. This is expected to fall to just 0.20ha per 1,000 population in 2026 as a result of population growth.

The area is also deficient in the amount of natural greenspace available, with just 1.22ha per 1,000 population (which will fall to 0.97ha per 1,000 population in 2026) compared to a standard of 1.5ha per 1,000 population.

Many of the sub-area's open spaces include garden beds that are managed by the Bankside Open Spaces Trust (BOST). Open space in the sub-area appears to be well used, with a number of

community events focused on open spaces. Perhaps as a result of the limited amount of open space and the involvement of BOST, the quality of many spaces is generally quite high, although there is still some scope for improvement.

The sub-area has the highest proportion of the population aged 15-29 in the borough, and also the lowest proportion of those aged under 15 and over 60.

The demographic structure of the sub-area indicates that demand for open space is high, despite the limited range of provision. The area also accommodates a very high proportion of residential units which do not have access to private open space and also has a relatively high population density, despite much of its floorspace being used for non-residential uses. The sub-area's daytime population is very high as a result of the degree of employment generating uses, which puts further pressure on the limited open space provision.

Despite relatively low levels of provision, satisfaction of open space, the contribution to quality of life and opinions on quality were all relatively high.



Redcross Gardens (OS15)

Proposals to address deficiencies

The key open space deficiencies in Bankside, Borough and London Bridge are

- Most parts of the sub-area are outside of the recommended catchment areas to District and Metropolitan parks.
- Some parts of the north west of sub-area are deficient in access to all park types.
- The sub-area is below the quantity standard for public park provision.
- The sub-area is below the quantity standard for natural greenspace.
- There is poor access to outdoor sports facilities.
- Relatively poor access to allotments and community gardens.

Proposals to address these deficiencies are

- Look for opportunities to create new open space to bring the sub-area closer to the borough standard on sites including Crossbones Graveyard and as part of the development around the Tate Modern area.
- Implement new civic space and public realm improvements as part of the Bankside Urban Forest Framework.
- Continue to work with Bankside Open Spaces Trust (BOST) to improve the quality and range of activities at open spaces and support the edible Bankside project.



Crossbones Open Space (BB2)

Measures to improve quality and value of spaces

The majority of open spaces in the sub-area are of good quality and are valued by the local community. Spaces which are below the borough average for quality and value, and should be the focus of improvements, are shown in Figure 7.1, including:

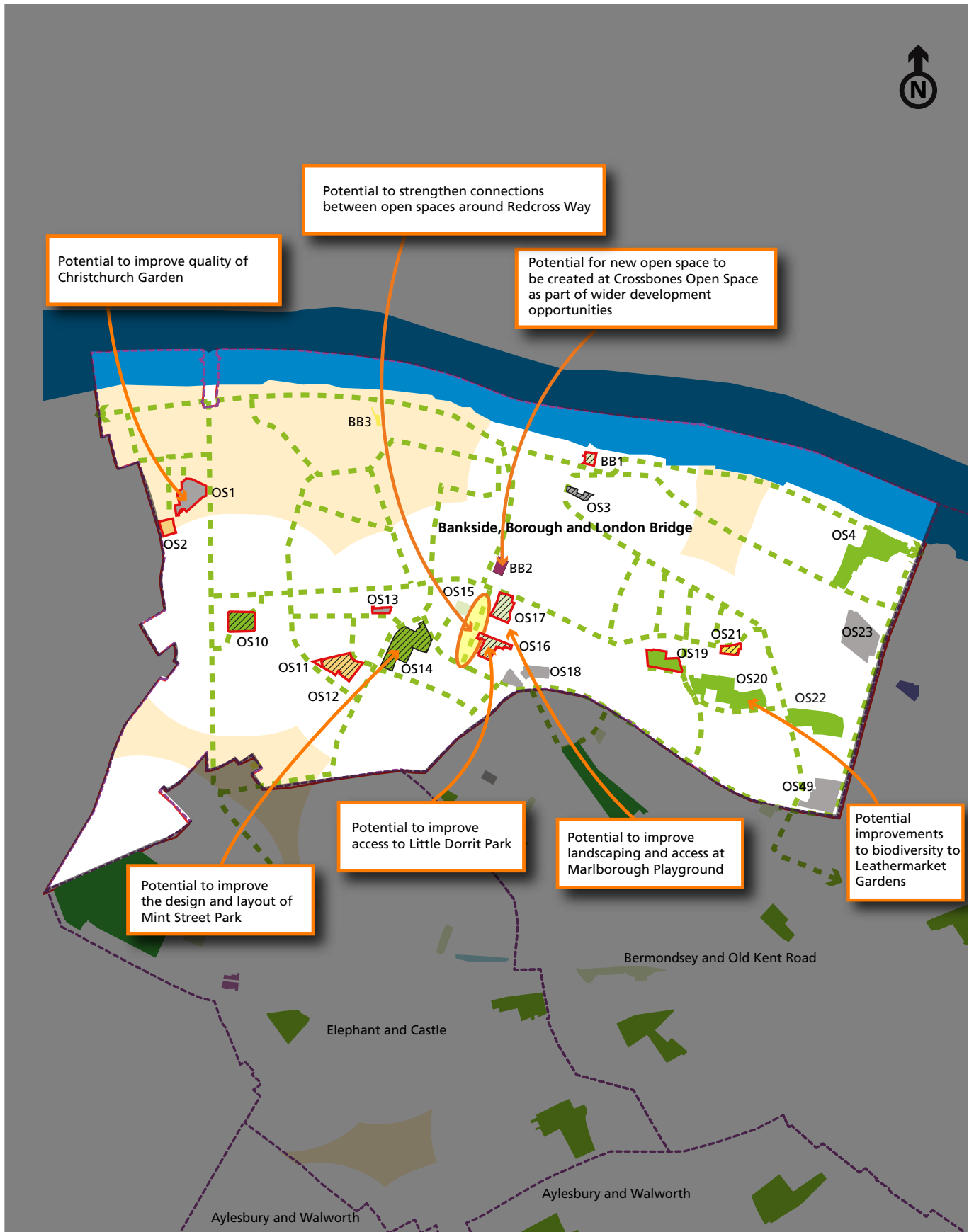
- Christchurch Gardens (OS1). Potential to improve landscaping and facilities to address park deficiency in this area.
- Marlborough Playground (OS17). Potential to improve landscaping and access.
- Leathermarket Gardens (OS20). Potential improvements to biodiversity.

Potential improvements to linkages between spaces

- The Thames Path is a key route through the sub-area. The Thames itself is perhaps Bankside's most important open space and helps to define the character of the sub-area. There is potential to provide links from other parts of the sub-area to link into the Thames Path.
- There is potential to improve links between the cluster of open spaces around Redcross Way. Many of these spaces are hidden from view and could be linked together by more effective signage and tree planting.
- There is also potential to link to other parts of the borough, including Elephant and Castle and Bermondsey, as well as Burgess Park and Southwark Park, in order to address the deficiency in access to larger open spaces.



Potters Fields (OS4)



Please refer to the key at the end of this document

Sub-area strategy for Bankside, Borough and London Bridge

Elephant and Castle

Area profile

Elephant and Castle is the smallest of the borough's eight sub-areas but is an area designated for major regeneration and change. Elephant and Castle has the status of an opportunity area in the Southwark Plan and the London Plan, with just under half of the sub-area designated as a development site. It is also part of the wider cross borough strategy to develop London South Central as an area that functions fully as part of Central London.

The area has a relatively limited range of open space, consisting mainly of small parks and open spaces. The far west of the area also accommodates Geraldine Mary Harmsworth Park, which the Imperial War Museum sits within. The quality of open space was generally deemed to be relatively good during the site assessments.

The sub-area has a total of 0.7ha of park provision per 1,000 population, which is below the standard of 0.72ha per 1,000 population. This is expected to fall to 0.56ha per 1,000 population in 2026 as a result of population growth.

The area is also highly deficient in the amount of natural greenspace available, with just 0.38ha per 1,000 population (which will fall to 0.31ha per 1,000 population in 2026) compared to a standard of 1.5ha per 1,000 population.

The sub-area has the highest population density of any sub-area in the borough. Furthermore, the area has the second highest proportion of housing units with no access to private open space (after Bankside). Both of these indicators suggest high demand for open space within the sub-area.

Satisfaction with open space was the lowest of any sub-area in the borough. However, opinions on quality were relatively good, which suggests that the lack of satisfaction is largely a result of the lack of quantity or range of open space. Residents of Elephant and Castle were also more likely to suggest that safety fears prevent the use of open spaces.



Geraldine Mary Harmsworth Park (OS56)

Proposals to address deficiencies

The key open space deficiencies in Elephant and Castle are:

- Most parts of the sub-area are outside of the recommended catchment areas to District and Metropolitan parks. The sub-area is below the quantity standard for park provision.
- The sub-area is below the quantity standard for natural greenspace provision.
- Poor access to outdoor sports facilities.
- Relatively poor access to allotments and community gardens.

Proposals to address these deficiencies are:

- Create new open space, potentially as a new Local Park, as part of the comprehensive redevelopment of the Heygate Estate.
- Provide new open space on Carter Place if the opportunity arises.
- Improve the public realm and provide links to Bankside and the Thames Path, linking in with the Bankside Urban Forest Framework.
- Investigate the potential to introduce new habitat creation at Nursery Row Park.



Geraldine Mary Hamsworth Park (OS56)



Nursery Row Park (OS76)

Measures to improve quality and value of spaces

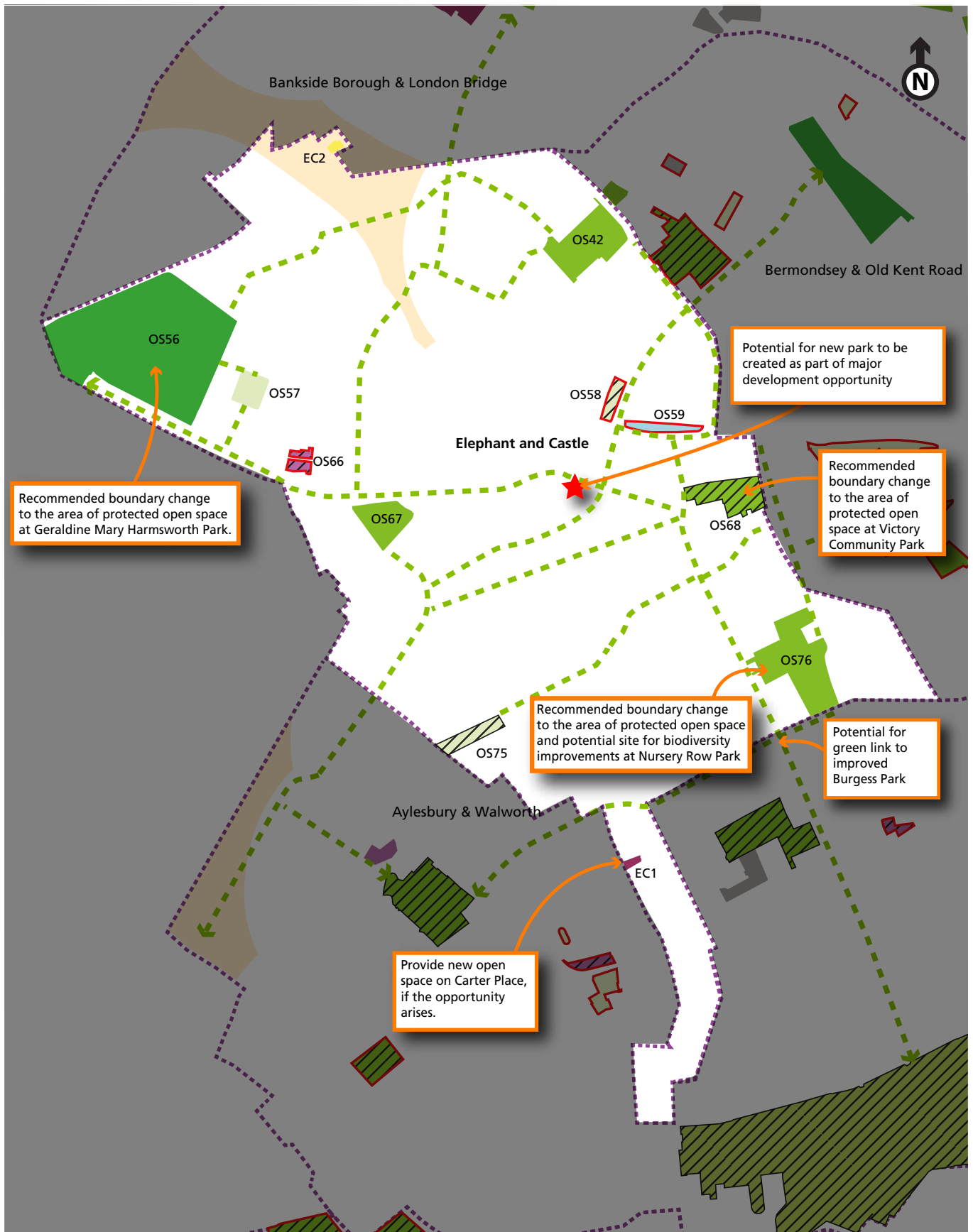
Figure 7.2 shows all spaces which are below the borough average for quality and value. Pullens Gardens (OS75), is a space where quality is particular poor and where there is potential to improve pathways and landscaping.

Potential improvements to linkages between spaces

There is potential to link to other parts of the borough, including Bankside, Bermondsey and Aylesbury. Green links should be provided to the Thames Path, Kennington Park, Southwark Park and the improved Burgess Park



West Square Garden (OS57)



Sub-area strategy for Elephant and Castle

Please refer to the key at the end of this document

Bermondsey and Old Kent Road

Area profile

Bermondsey is one of the larger sub-areas in the borough, consisting of a range of residential, retail and other commercial uses. Although not the largest in terms of area, Bermondsey accommodates over 63,000 people, which is the largest in terms of population of any of the borough's sub-areas. The character of the area in the west of the sub-area is closer to that of Bankside and Elephant and Castle, with denser residential units and flexible workspace. The south of the sub-area is focused on the Old Kent Road, which is itself a significant severance barrier. The south of the sub-area also contains a range of industrial employment uses.

Bermondsey has very little open space, with the lowest amount of open space per population of any sub-area in the borough. The majority of open space consists of small parks which are relatively well distributed throughout the sub-area. However, the sub-area is bordered by Burgess Park on the south west and

Southwark Park on the north east which provides opportunities to access these larger spaces.

The sub-area has the lowest level of park provision in the Borough with a total of 0.17ha of park provision per 1,000 population, and is well below the standard of 0.72ha per 1,000 population. This is expected to fall to just 0.13ha per 1,000 population in 2026 as a result of population growth.

The area is also highly deficient in the amount of natural greenspace available, with just 0.36ha per 1,000 population (which will fall to 0.29ha per 1,000 population in 2026) compared to a standard of 1.5ha per 1,000 population.

Bermondsey has the third highest population density in the borough after Elephant and Castle and Aylesbury and Walworth. Given the size of the sub-area, this demonstrates that the built up area is relatively dense. Over 83% of all residential units are estimated to have no access to private open space.



Merrick Square (OS45)

Proposals to address deficiencies

The key open space deficiencies in Bermondsey are:

- The sub-area is below the quantitative standard for parks.
- The sub-area is below the quantitative standard for natural greenspace.
- There is a quantitative lack of allotments and community gardens.

Proposals to address these deficiencies are:

- Work with Bermondsey and Rotherhithe Green Enthusiasts (BARGES) to introduce new natural greenspace to existing sites, including the potential to introduce new habitat creation.
- Improve access to existing open spaces, including strong links to Burgess Park and Southwark Park, as well as the Thames Path.
- Look for opportunities to increase the provision of parks to get closer to the borough's recommended standard.



Potter's Field Park (OS4)

Measures to improve quality and value of spaces

Figure 7.3 shows all spaces which are below the borough average for quality and value. Dickens Square (OS44), is in particularly poor condition and requires improvements to landscaping and access to the site. Swanmead (OS60) is also in below average condition and has potential for some minor improvements to benches and play equipment.

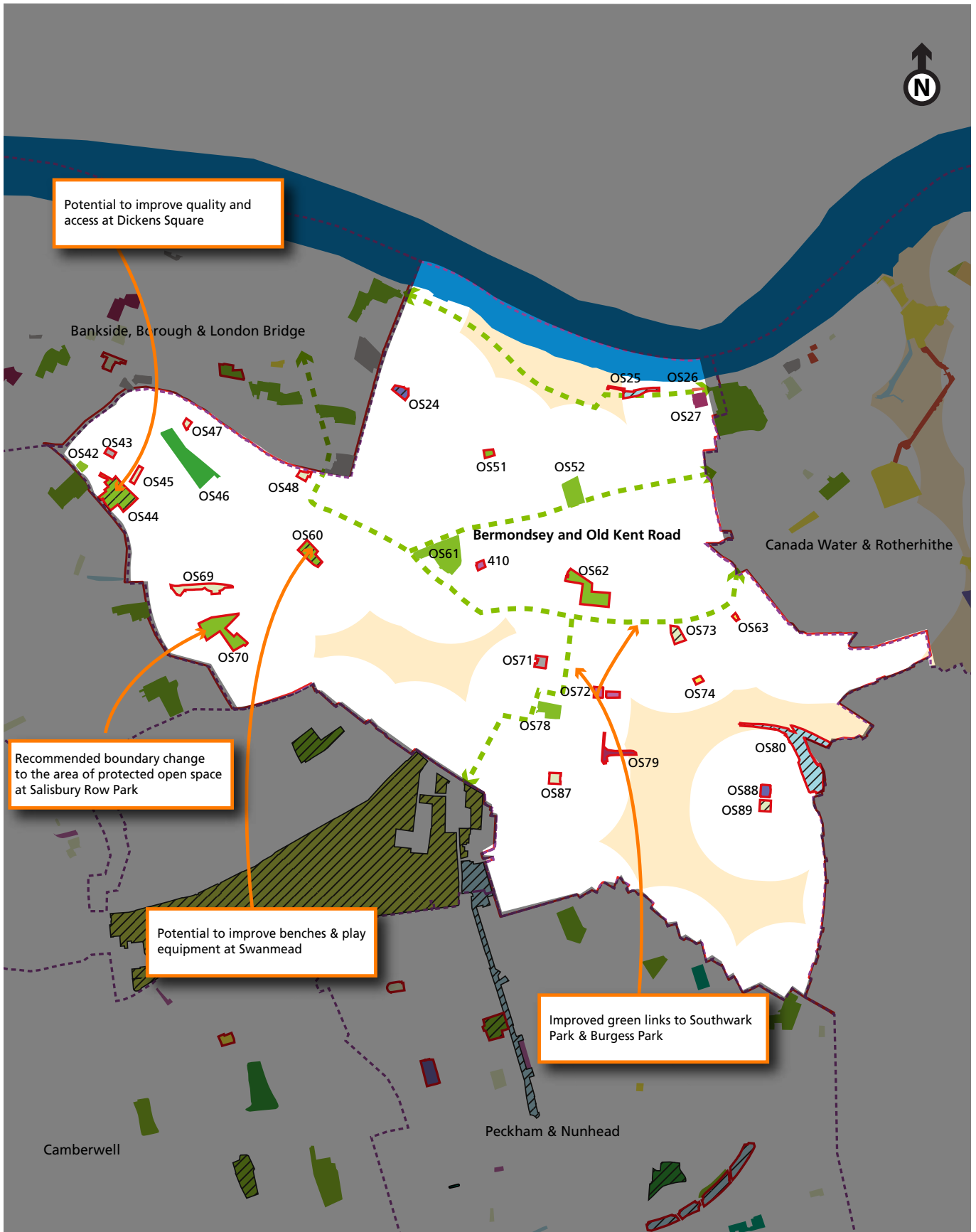
Potential improvements to linkages between spaces

Given the limited opportunities to create large new open spaces to meet the growing population, providing links to the existing open spaces of Burgess Park and Southwark will be critical to maintaining access to open space.

There is also potential to improve links within and to the Thames Path.



Bermondsey Spa (OS61)



**Sub-area strategy for
Bermondsey and Old Kent Road**

Please refer to the key at the end of this document

Canada Water and Rotherhithe

Area profile

The Canada Water and Rotherhithe sub-area is unique in the borough in that much of the development in the area has taken place during the past 30 years. Historically, the area was home to the Surrey Docks, which by the end of the Second World War covered an area of about 186 hectares, 85% of the peninsula. Building heights and residential densities are generally higher around the periphery of the AAP area and lower in the centre. Much of the area around Surrey Docks ward in particular has a suburban feel.

The sub-area is relatively well provided for in terms of open space, both in terms of the quantity and range of open space available. Spaces include Southwark Park, Russia Dock Woodlands, a series of inland water bodies and a range of smaller public parks and squares. The sub-area has the second highest amount of open

space per person in the borough with 1.53ha per 1,000 population, and therefore is above the standard of 0.72ha per 1,000 population.

The sub-area also has a high amount of natural greenspace, with 4.44ha per 1,000 population (which will fall to 3.55ha per 1,000 population in 2026 as a result of population growth), and which is well above the standard of 1.5ha per 1,000 population.

Due to the amount of open space available and the more suburban housing densities found in many parts, the overall population density in the area is relatively low. However, there are pockets of high density, particularly located around Greenland Docks and in Rotherhithe. The sub-area has a relatively young population which indicates high demand for open space per population.



Albion Channel (OS53)



Rotherhithe Street, Rotherhithe

Proposals to address deficiencies

Canada Water is relatively well provided for in terms of open space. However the following deficiencies have been identified:

- There are no allotments/community gardens in the sub-area which means the area is deficient in access to this open space type. There is potential to address this by introducing facilities within new and existing open spaces.
- Although this report has not undertaken a detailed analysis of the supply of children's play facilities, the infrastructure background paper which supports the Canada Water AAP (CD CW18) identified that there was a deficiency in access to children's play in the north of the sub-area. This can be addressed by providing new children's play facilities within development opportunities to the north of the area.



Greenland Dock (OS64)

Measures to improve quality and value of spaces

Figure 7.4 shows the spaces which fall below the borough average for quality and value. The following sites are considered to have particular potential for improvement:

- Improve the quality of landscaping and security at Deal Porters Walk (OS34).
- Bring Surrey Docks Sports Ground (OS6) back into use.
- Improve the quality of open space at St Pauls Sports Ground (CW1).
- Introduce new open space uses at the Former Nursery (CW2).
- Provide improvements to the athletics track and ancillary buildings at Southwark Park (OS53).

- Investigate the potential to introduce new habitat creation at Kings Stairs Gardens (OS28).
- Improve the range of facilities at Durands Wharf (OS40)

Canada Water has a good range of open spaces, some of which are already well linked together by green routes. However, there is potential to improve links including:

- Links between Southwark Park, Greenland Dock and Russia Dock Woodland through the new development opportunities within the town centre area.
- Potential to improve links from the Thames Path into Russia Dock Woodland.



Russia Dock Woodland (OS38)



Please refer to the key at the end of this document

Sub-area strategy for Canada Water and Rotherhithe

Aylesbury and Walworth

Area profile

The sub-area is focused on the Aylesbury Estate, which is an area of social housing constructed between 1966 and 1977. The estate is subject to severe deprivation and is home to over 7,500 people and includes several schools, offices and community buildings and some limited retail. The estate will be completely redeveloped as a new residential community (see below). The wider area includes East Street, Walworth Road, Old Kent Road, and Burgess Park, which includes a mix of retail and a variety of housing stock.

The sub-area has the highest level of park provision per population, largely because Burgess Park forms about 25% of the total area. The sub-area also has a range of smaller open spaces including a number of allotments and smaller parks. Although not assessed as part of this study, housing amenity space also provides a significant open space resource in this area.

In total, the sub-area has a total of 2.33ha of park provision per 1,000 population, which is well above the standard of 0.72ha per 1,000 population. This is expected to fall to 2.1ha per 1,000 population in 2026 as a result of population growth.

The area also meets the Borough's natural greenspace standards with 2.24ha per 1,000 population (which will fall to 2.01ha per 1,000 population in 2026) compared to a standard of 1.5ha per 1,000 population.

The Aylesbury and Walworth sub-area has some of the overall highest levels of need for open space as a result of the high rates of poor health, high levels of deprivation, high population densities and high child densities. The resident's survey identified that residents' of the sub-area were more likely to rate the quality of open space as poor than in other areas of the borough.



Burgess Park (OS91)

Proposals to address deficiencies

Because Burgess Park forms a significant amount of the sub-area, the area does not suffer from many qualitative or accessibility-related deficiencies. However, the quality of the current Burgess Park was assessed to be relatively low, although this is being addressed as part of the £6million renovation of the park. There is also potential to expand the community gardens at Burgess Park if demand is strong enough. It should be noted that since the

resident's survey and assessment were carried out, considerable investment has already been made to Burgess Park, although further investment to improve even more of the park is also needed.

The redevelopment of the Aylesbury Estate also presents an opportunity to create a series of 'green fingers' from the improved Burgess Park into the new development, linking Surrey Square Park and Faraday Gardens with the park.



Walworth City Farm (OS81)

Measures to improve quality and value of spaces

Figure 7.5 shows all spaces which are below the borough average in terms of quality and value. Spaces which are in particular need of investment are

- Aylesbury Allotments (401)
- Fielding St Allotments (409)
- Forsyth Gardens (OS90)
- Surrey Square Park (OS77)
- Burgess Park (OS91).

Potential improvements to linkages between spaces

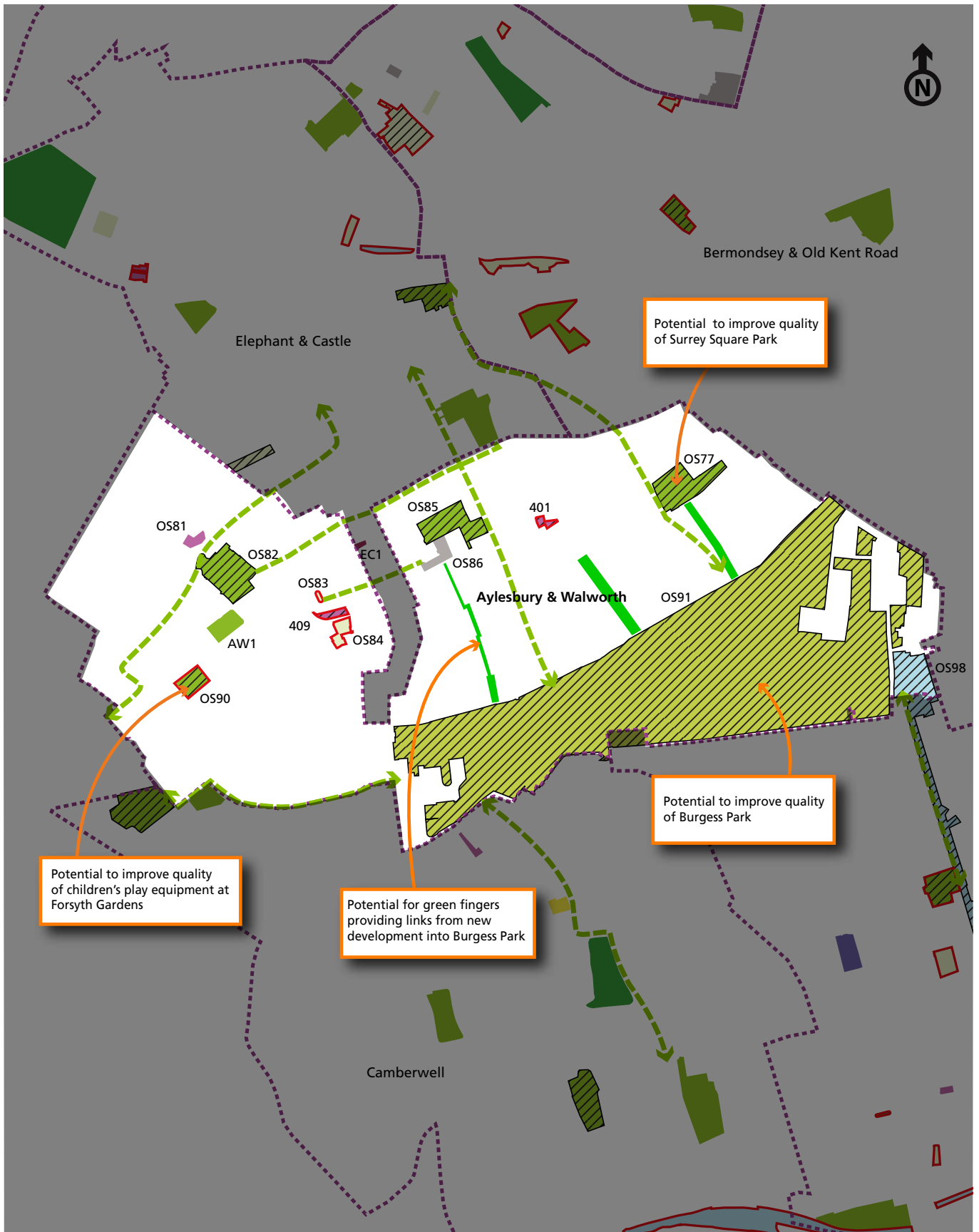
There is potential to improve links between Burgess Park, which is well located in the centre of the borough, to other major open spaces including Southwark Park, Kennington Park and the smaller open spaces in Peckham and Camberwell. The 'green fingers' proposed as part of the Aylesbury AAP linking the new development with Burgess Park will also help to connect the proposals with this important open space.



Burgess Park (OS91)



Walworth City Farm (OS81)



Please refer to the key at the end of this document

Sub-area strategy for Aylesbury and Walworth

Camberwell

Area profile

Camberwell is a mixture of relatively well preserved Georgian and twentieth century housing, including a number of social housing estates. The north of the sub-area is focused around Camberwell Green and Camberwell Road, which includes a range of retail provision, whilst the south of the sub-area includes a range of residential units.

The distribution of open space in the sub-area is relatively good, although there is a lack of larger open space and natural greenspace. However, the sub-area is bordered by Burgess Park to the north and Ruskin Park to the south which provide good access to larger open space outside of the area.

The sub-area has a total of 0.27ha of park provision per 1,000 population, which is below the standard of 0.72ha per 1,000 population. This is expected to fall to 0.23ha per 1,000 population in 2026 as a result of population growth.

The area is also deficient in the amount of natural greenspace available, with 0.47ha per 1,000 population (which will fall to 0.42ha per 1,000 population in 2026) compared to a standard of 1.5ha per 1,000 population.

Camberwell has a relatively high population density and high child densities. The resident's survey identified that local residents viewed the quality of local open space as relatively good, with satisfaction levels also relatively high.



Lett'som Gardens



Brunswick Park (OS101)

Proposals to address deficiencies

Camberwell is relatively well served by open space, with a good distribution of small parks within Camberwell and relatively good access to larger spaces outside of the sub-area. However, the sub-area does not meet the quantity standard for parks or natural greenspace. There are also deficiencies in the quantity of allotments and community gardens. New community garden space could be created within Nairn Road Nature Garden, or within a section of other open space. There is also potential to bring Benhill Road Nature Garden back into use for community gardening/natural greenspace.

Measures to improve quality and value of spaces

Camberwell has a number of spaces that are not fulfilling their current potential, many of which are located in the south of the sub-area closer to Dulwich. Figure 7.6 shows all spaces which are below the borough average for quality and value. Quality improvements are particularly required to

- Nairn Grove Nature Garden (OS134)
- Greendale Playing Field (OS128)
- Benhill Road Nature Garden (OS97)
- Greendale Artificial Pitch (OS129).



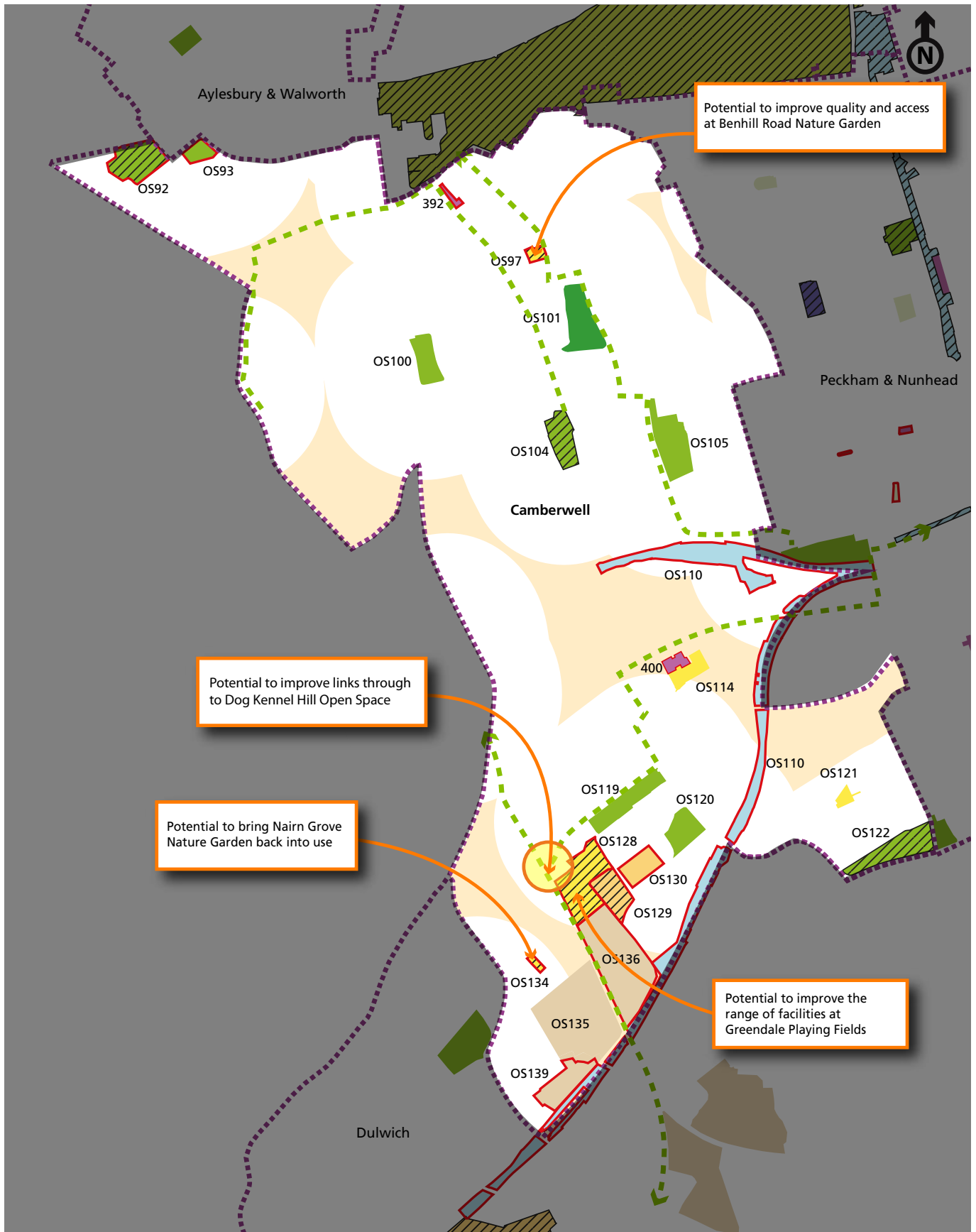
Dulwich Hamlet Football Club (OS130)

Potential improvements to linkages between spaces

There is potential to improve links between Burgess Park and the smaller parks and open spaces within Camberwell. There is also potential to create routes linking Greendale with other parts of the sub-area and existing links into Dulwich.



Dog Kennel Hill (OS119)



Sub-area strategy for Camberwell

Please refer to the key at the end of this document

Peckham and Nunhead

Area profile

The Peckham and Nunhead sub-area is varied in character with Peckham, in the north, quite distinct from Nunhead, in the south. Peckham has been subject to significant change in recent years, with the development of new homes, two new parks and a range of community facilities. Peckham has some pockets of severe deprivation. Nunhead lies to the south east of Peckham bounded by Peckham Rye Park & Peckham Rye Common and the borough boundary with Lewisham. It is a quiet residential area predominantly made up of Victorian terraced housing.

In total, the sub-area has a total of 1.1ha of park provision per 1,000 population, which is above the standard of 0.72ha per 1,000 population. This is expected to fall to 0.96ha per 1,000 population in 2026 as a result of population growth.

The area also meets the borough's natural greenspace standards with 1.92ha per 1,000 population (which will fall to 1.67ha per 1,000 population in 2026) compared to a standard of 1.5ha per 1,000 population.

Building heights and residential densities are generally higher in the centre of the sub-area around Rye Lane and Peckham High Street and lower in the surrounding areas. Much of the area is residential with Peckham town centre, the borough's largest shopping area running north to south through the centre along Rye Lane. Population densities within the sub-area as a whole are not as high as other parts of the borough, however, Peckham does have some areas of particularly high population density, whilst Nunhead is generally lower density. The sub-area has one of the highest levels of ill-health in



Peckham Rye Park and Peckham Rye Common (OS124)

the borough and also the highest child density in Southwark.

The residents' survey revealed that, although the perception of quality of open space was in line with the wider borough, the level of satisfaction with open space in generally is one of the lowest in the borough. This suggests that there are concerns either with the quantity or range of open space provision.

Proposals to address deficiencies

Access to parks and natural greenspaces is relatively good throughout the sub-area. The south of the sub-area has a greater amount of park provision per person, although Burgess Park provides opportunities to access larger open spaces for residents in the northern part of Peckham.

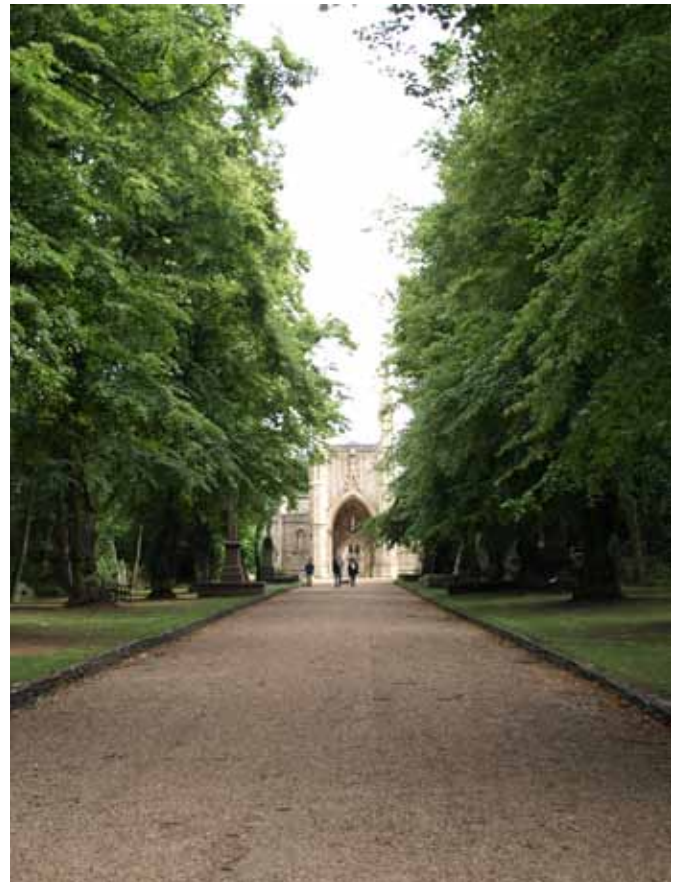
There is a need to increase the provision of public parks and natural greenspace wherever possible within the north of the sub-area.

Proposals to address these deficiencies are

- Reintegrate the northern section of Cossall Park (formerly part of Tuke's school) to the existing protected open space.
- Improve links to Burgess Park and Peckham Rye Park & Peckham Rye Common.
- Investigate the potential to improve the quality and range of provision at the amenity space at Meeting House Lane.



Cossall Park (OS107)



Nunhead Cemetery (OS126)

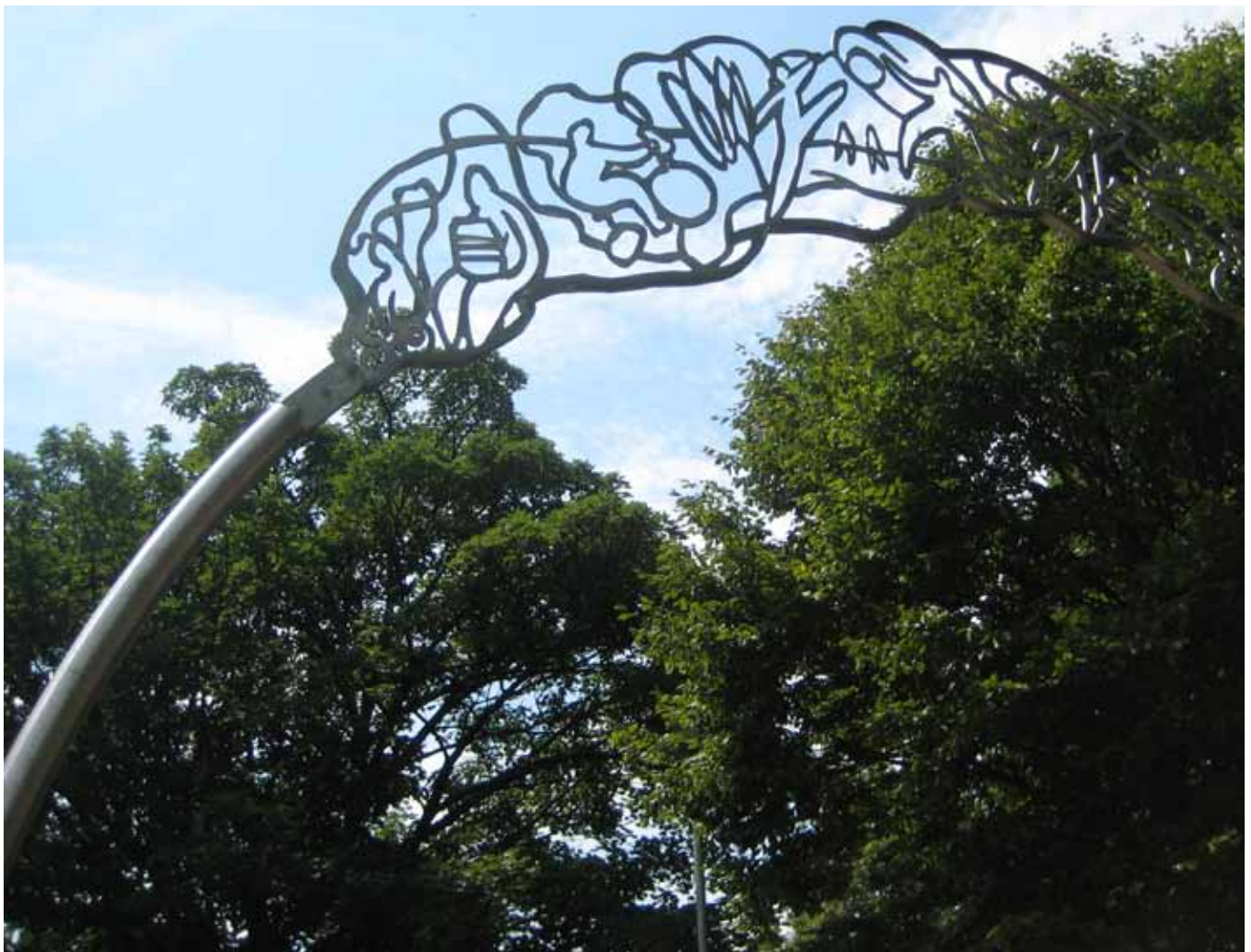
Measures to improve quality and value of spaces

Spaces in Peckham generally scored lower in terms of quality than other spaces in the borough. Those spaces which are below the borough average for quality and value are shown in Figure 7.7. The following spaces should be prioritised for improvements:

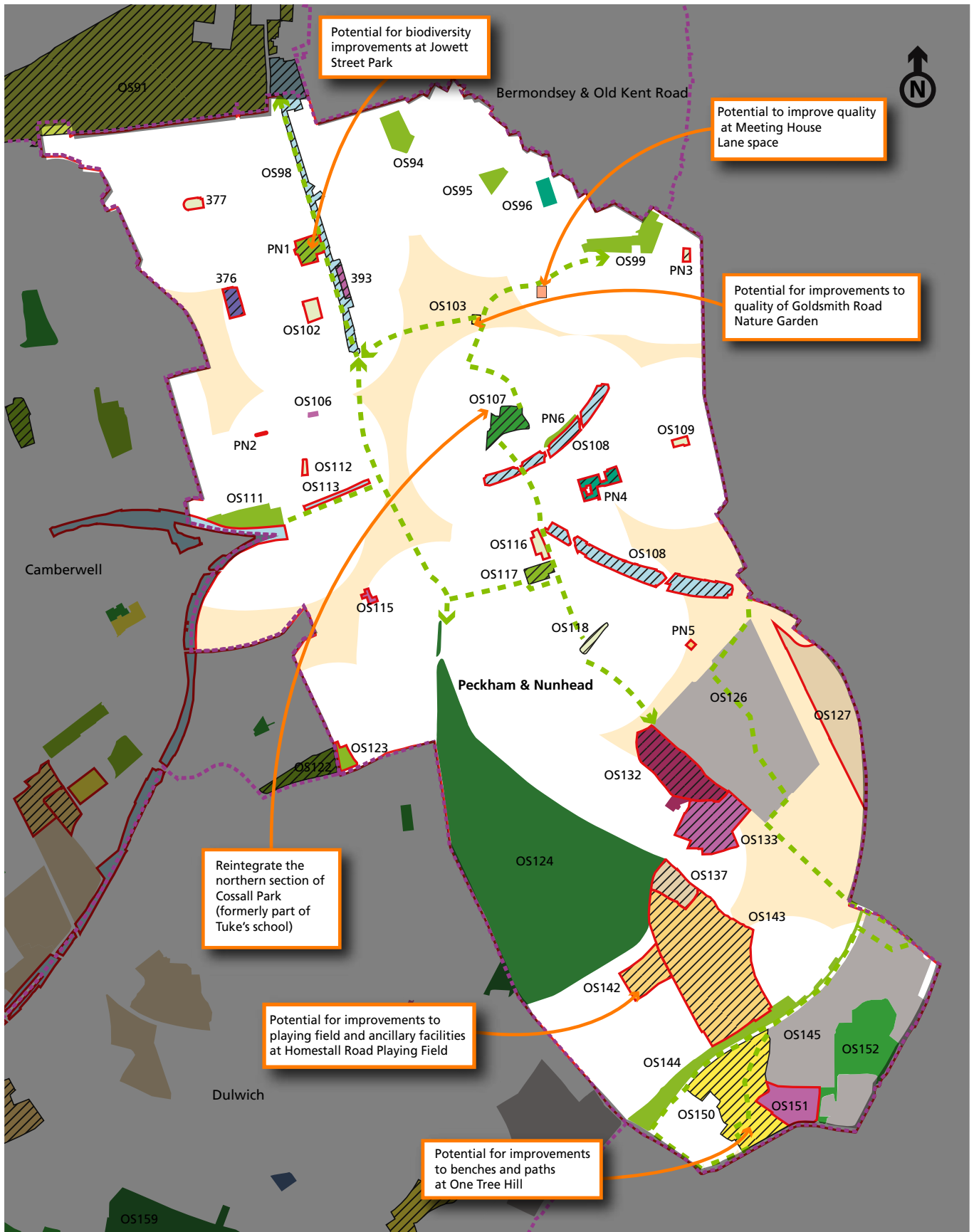
- Goldsmith Road Nature Garden (OS103);
- One Tree Hill (OS150);
- Jowett Street Park (PN1)
- Homestall Road Playing Field (OS142)
- Brayards Green (PN5); and
- Kirkwood Road Nature Garden (PN7).

Potential improvements to linkages between spaces

Peckham has the most significant linear greenspace in the form of the Surrey Canal Walk linking Burgess Park with Peckham town centre. There is potential to extend this link southwards through the town centre to connect with Peckham Rye Park & Peckham Rye Common. There is also potential to improve connections to the spaces in the east of the sub-area and to link in with Nunhead Cemetery and the existing Green Chain Network.



Brimmington Park (OS99)



Please refer to the key at the end of this document

Sub-area strategy for Peckham and Nunhead

Dulwich

Area profile

Dulwich has a character which is distinct from many other parts of the borough. It has a range of historic qualities and a strong local identity, with a wide range of open space. The south of the sub-area includes a large body of open space which is managed by the Dulwich Estate. Whilst some of the open spaces managed by the estate are publicly accessible, many are leased by sports clubs and other providers that restrict access. The northern sections of the sub-area are suburban in character, consisting largely of semi-detached housing with private gardens.

Open space helps to define the character of the sub-area, with spaces such as Dulwich Park forming a key focus for the community. Open space is generally of very high quality, although there are some spaces which require investment.

The significant level of outdoor sports provision concentrated in the sub-area means that residents from other parts of the borough, as well as other borough's in south London, travel to use the facilities.

In total, the sub-area has a total of 0.91ha of park provision per 1,000 population, which is above the standard of 0.72ha per 1,000 population. This is expected to fall to 0.76ha per 1,000 population in 2026 as a result of population growth.

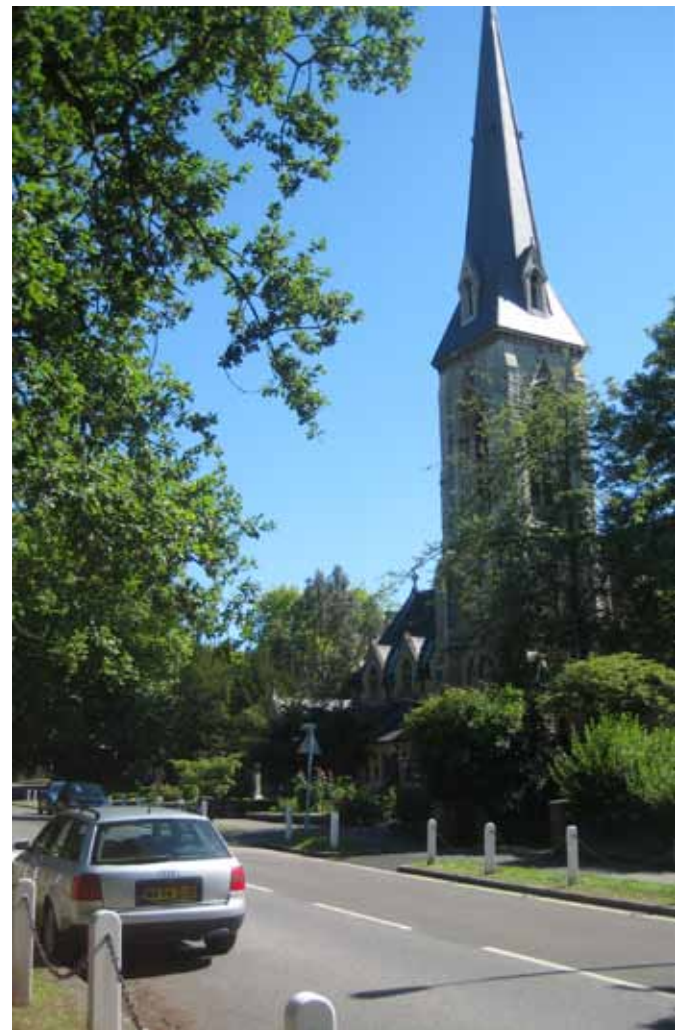
The area also meets the borough's natural greenspace standards with 4.23ha per 1,000 population (which will fall to 3.84ha per 1,000 population in 2026) compared to a standard of 1.5ha per 1,000 population.

Dulwich has the lowest population density in the borough. It also has very low levels of deprivation and levels of ill-health are generally low. However, there are pockets of relatively high population density and deprivation north east of Dulwich Park, possibly related to the Dawson Heights social housing estate.

The telephone survey identified that residents of the sub-area rated the quality of open space higher than in any other sub-area. Furthermore, satisfaction with open space was also very high.



Dulwich Common Sports Ground (OS169)

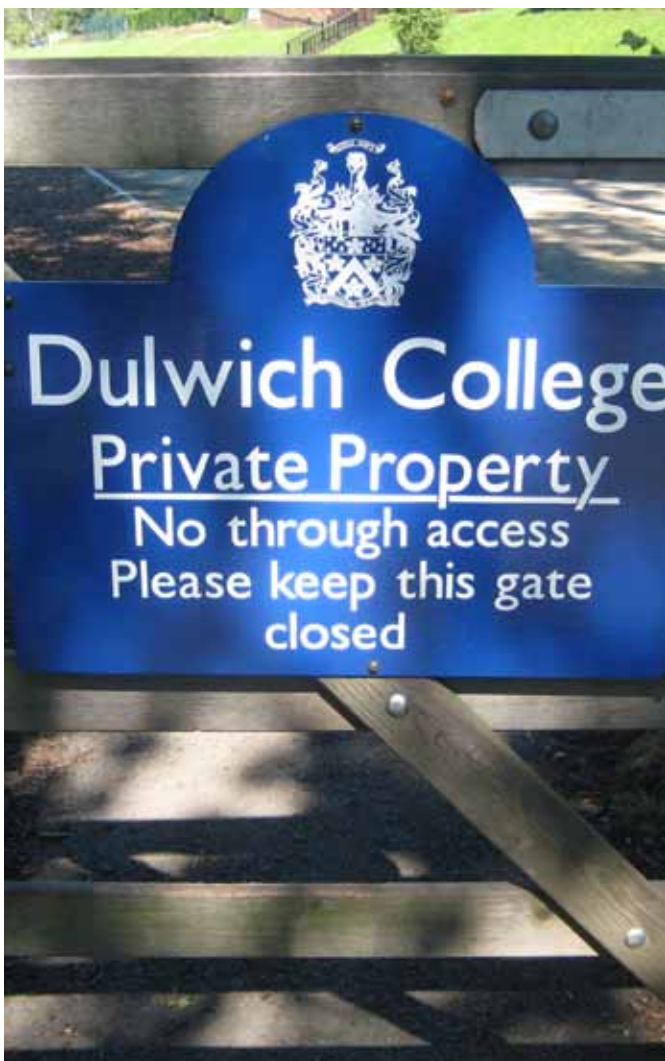


St Stephens Church

Proposals to address deficiencies

As mentioned above, despite having a relatively high amount of open space per person, there are some relatively large areas of the sub-area that are considered as deficient in access to parks. The majority of these areas consist of suburban housing with access to private open space, although there are some areas, such as the Dawson Heights estate, which do not have such access. There is potential to provide new open space as part of the redevelopment of the Dulwich Hospital Site. There is potential to improve the recreation facilities at Dawson Heights, creating a new small park which would help to alleviate access deficiencies in this area. Encouraging private open spaces to open for

public use and improving links to these spaces will also help to overcome deficiencies. The Southwark Play Strategy also identified that there is insufficient children's play facilities within the sub-area. There is potential for new children's play facilities to be secured at Dawson Heights (OS155), as well as at Long Meadow (OS184).



Dulwich College (OS171)

Measures to improve quality and value of spaces

Figure 7.8 shows all spaces which are below the borough average for quality and value. The following sites have particular potential to be improved in terms of quality

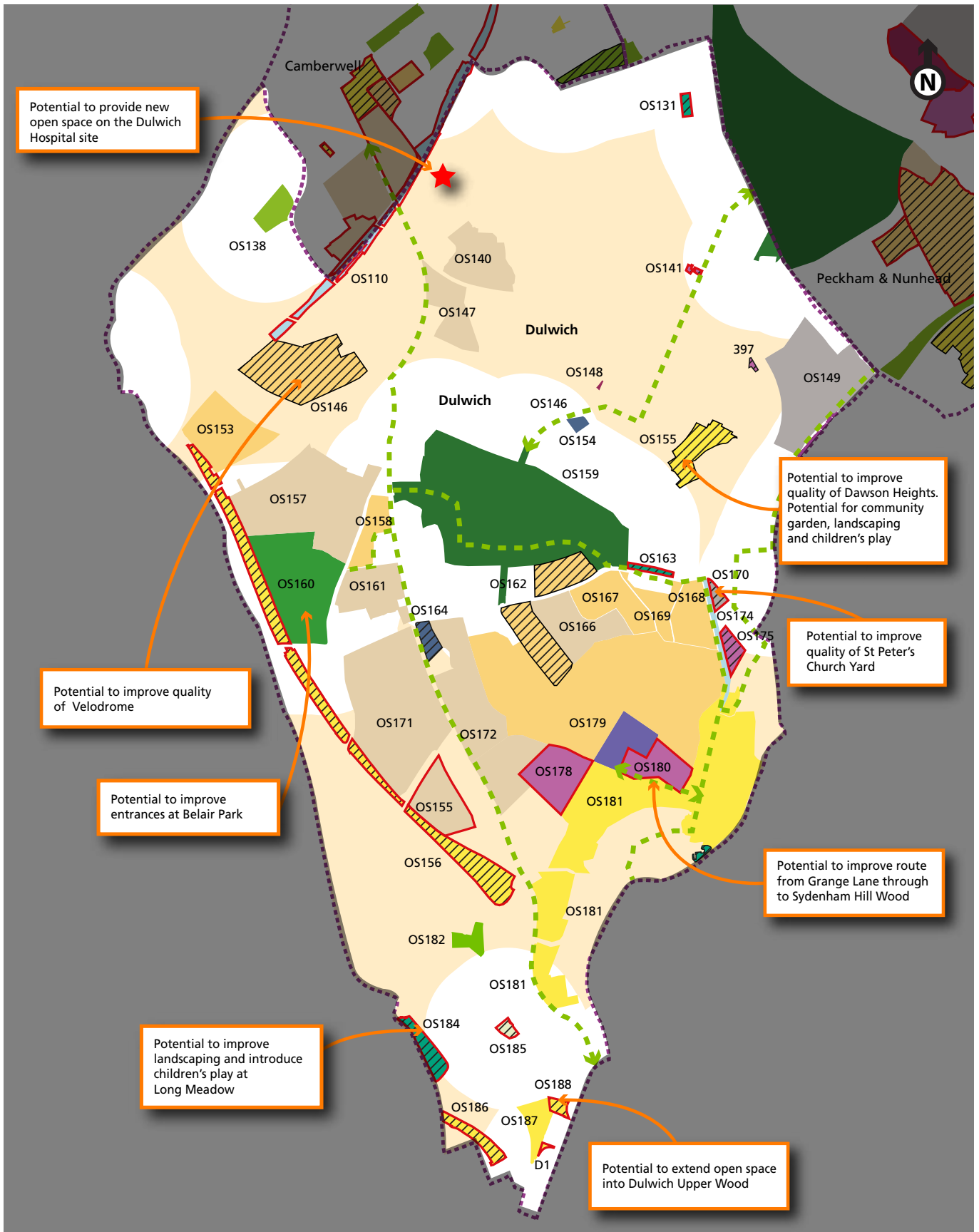
- St Peter's Church Yard (OS170)
- Dawson Heights (OS155)
- Herne Hill Cycle Stadium (OS146)
- Long Meadow (OS184).

Potential improvements to linkages between spaces

A number of major open spaces throughout Dulwich are already linked by the Green Chain Network and it will be important that these links are maintained and enhanced. There is also potential to improve links between spaces within the sub-area and other sections of the borough. Links should be improved to Peckham Rye Park and Peckham Rye Common and to Camberwell via Greendale.



Belair Park (OS100)



Sub-area strategy for Dulwich

Please refer to the key at the end of this document



UNDERPASS
LOOK
BOTH WAYS





Action plan

Action plan

The action plan below sets out the actions we consider necessary in order to achieve the Open Space Strategy Vision. The actions are aimed at meeting identified needs. For each action we have identified, who will be responsible for making it happen, these are generally Council departments, but where we feel there is a need for a partnership approach working with other bodies we have identified it here.

Sub area	Open space type	Action	Objectives which the actions would help meet	Responsibility	Funding
Borough-wide	All	Investigate potential to introduce cafés and other revenue generating activities (e.g bike hire) at large parks)	P6	Parks, Planning	Private finance
	All	Adopt quantity, quality and accessibility standards in planning policy documents	P1, P2, P4, P6, H1, H5, R1, R3, B1, B3, T1, C2	Planning	Council budgets
	All	Protect additional open spaces identified in this strategy through the planning process	P1, H5, R3, C2	Planning	Council budgets
	All	Develop an approach to secure funding for open space improvements from the Community Infrastructure Levy	P2, P6, R1, R3, B1, T1, C2	Planning	Council budgets
	All	Ensure that all open spaces are as accessible as possible to all groups in the community and ensure that new design is DDA compliant.	H1, T4	Parks	Council budgets / S106 / CIL
	All	Ensure cycle parking is provided at all of the borough's larger spaces	H4, T4	Parks	Council budgets / S106 / CIL
	All	Encourage green roofs, living walls and sustainable urban drainage systems as part of development proposals	P5, B1, C3, C5	Planning	On site provision through planning applications
	All	Include the principle of Right Tree Right Place in planning policy documents	P2, H4, H5	Planning	On site provision through planning applications / S106 / CIL
	All	Promote open space for tourism and businesses	P7, T2	Planning	Council budgets /S106 /CIL
	All	Encourage open space and greening of the environment to help improve air quality, promote sustainable water use and reduce the urban heat island effects	H5, C4, C5	Planning	On site provision through planning applications / S106 / CIL

Sub area	Open space type	Action	Objectives which the actions would help meet	Responsibility	Funding
	All	Encourage multi-functional use of open spaces	H2, H3, T1, E2, E3, E4, E5	Parks, Planning, housing, Voluntary groups	On site provision through planning applications / Council budgets / CIL /
	All	Develop the public health role of parks by working with local agencies to support projects such as the walking to health programmes, Green Gyms, GP referral/social prescribing, cycling programmes	H2, H3	Parks, Public health, Southwark Proactive	Private funding / Council budgets / S106 / CIL
	All	Encourage spaces in private use to open for public access and require new open space provided as part of new development to be publically accessible	T6	Planning, Housing, private sector	On site provision through planning applications / Council budgets / private finance
	All	Protect and improve the heritage value of open space and its contribution to the setting of heritage assets	D1, D2, D3	Planning, Housing, private sector	On site provision through planning applications / Council budgets / private finance
	All	Ensure that new development protects and enhances the quality of existing open space	R4, D4, C2	Parks, Planning, Housing, private sector	On site provision through planning applications / Council budgets / private finance
	Allotments / Community Gardens	Encourage food growing opportunities in all developments and encourage opportunities for allotments and community gardens as part of large developments or in existing open spaces where appropriate	H2, Co1, Co3, T1	Parks, Planning, Housing, Voluntary groups	On site provision through planning applications / Council budgets / S106 / CIL

Sub area	Open space type	Action	Objectives which the actions would help meet	Responsibility	Funding
	Amenity space	Provide amenity space as part of new development in line with the standards set out in the residential design standards SPD. Improve the quality and role of amenity space, introducing small scale improvements to encourage a range of activities including food growing, nature conservation and recreation.	P6, Co1, Co3, C2	Planning, Housing, private sector	On site provision through planning applications / Council budgets / private finance
	Amenity space	Work with local communities in the planning, design and management of open spaces provided as part of new development	R2, Co3	Planning, Housing, private sector, voluntary groups, Tenants & Residents Associations	On site provision through planning applications / Council budgets / private finance
	Children's Play	Investigate potential to introduce a wider range of facilities for older children and teenagers within open space	H2, H3, T1, T5	Parks	Council budgets / CIL
	Children's play	Require new development to provide good standards of play space	H3, T1	Planning	On site provision through planning applications / S106 / CIL
	Children's play	Secure new children's play provision as part of new development	H3, T1	Planning	On site provision through planning applications / S106 / CIL
	Children's play	Encourage school playgrounds and youth facilities to open outside of school hours for public use	H2, H3	Parks, Children's services, partner with youth organisations or sports clubs	Council budgets / CIL

Sub area	Open space type	Action	Objectives which the actions would help meet	Responsibility	Funding
	Outdoor sports facilities	Deliver high quality sports facilities and opportunities for physical activity	H2, H3, R3, T1	Parks, Southwark Proactive, partner with youth organisations or sports clubs	On site provision through planning applications / S106 / CIL
	Parks	Improve the safety and security of open spaces through a range of measures including increased visual surveillance and good access	Co1, Co2, T3	Parks	Council budgets, CIL
	Parks	Expand and develop a parks based programme for young people to run during holiday periods / after school, providing a range of activities that young people can get involved in	P6, H2, H3	Parks, Children's services, partner with youth organisations or sports clubs and Voluntary groups	Council budgets / CIL
	Parks	Secure new open space as part of major development proposals	P3, R1, R, T1, C2	Planning	On site provision through planning applications / S106 / CIL
	Parks	Improve signage and information boards in parks	E1	Parks	Council budgets / CIL
	Parks	Work with schools to encourage outdoor lessons and maximise use of open space	E4, E6	Parks, Children's services, partner with youth organisations or sports clubs and Voluntary groups	Council budgets / CIL
	Parks	Nominate sites for Queen Elizabeth II fields in trust designation where the park provides a valuable recreational resource	P6, H2, H3, T1, T2	Parks	Council budgets
	Links between spaces	Seek to promote amenity greenspace within the highway where the opportunity arises.	P2, H4, H5	Planning, Public Realm	Council budgets / S106 / CIL

Sub area	Open space type	Action	Objectives which the actions would help meet	Responsibility	Funding
	Links between spaces	Require improved links between spaces, including improvements to the pedestrian environment, signage and greening of street	H4, R1	Parks, Planning, Public Realm	Council budgets / CIL
	Links between spaces	Promote active travel between open spaces and along green chains, networks and corridors	H3, H4	Planning, Public Realm, NHS Southwark	Council budgets / CIL
	Natural greenspace	Investigate the potential to introduce new habitat creation at existing open space	P5, B1, B2	Planning	On site provision through planning applications
	Natural greenspace	Protect against the fragmentation of habitats and encourage ecological corridors as part of green links, chains and networks	B1, C1	Parks, Planning, Public Realm	Council budgets / CIL
	Natural greenspace	Promote access and use of the Thames and encourage effective use of the waterfront	T7, E6	Planning, Private Sector,	On site provision through planning applications / S106 / CIL / private finance
Sub areas	All	Improve open spaces which are below average quality and value, bringing them closer to the borough average as set out in the sub area strategies	P4, P5, P6, B1, T1	Planning, parks, Public realm	Council budgets, S106 / CIL





Appendices

Appendix 1 – Full schedule of sites assessed

Site ID	Name of Space	Sub-Area	Typology	Size (ha)
OS1	Christchurch Gardens	Bankside, Borough and London Bridge	Cemeteries	0.51
OS2	Paris Gardens	Bankside, Borough and London Bridge	Outdoor Sports Facilities - private	0.16
OS3	Cathedral Precinct	Bankside, Borough and London Bridge	Cemeteries	0.12
OS4	Potter's Field Park	Bankside, Borough and London Bridge	Small Local Park	1.35
OS5	Surrey Water	Canada Water	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	2.56
OS6	Surrey Docks Sports Ground (Pitch 1)	Canada Water	Outdoor Sports Facilities - private	0.91
OS7	Surrey Docks Sports Ground (Pitches 2&3)	Canada Water	Outdoor Sports Facilities - education	2.45
OS8	Lavender Pond	Canada Water	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	0.98
OS9	Pearson Park	Canada Water	Small Local Park	0.40
OS10	Nelson Square Gardens	Bankside, Borough and London Bridge	Small Local Park	0.40
OS11	Grotto Podiums	Bankside, Borough and London Bridge	Small Local Park	0.03
OS12	Grotto Open Space	Bankside, Borough and London Bridge	Outdoor Sports Facilities - private	0.49
OS13	All Hallows Churchyard	Bankside, Borough and London Bridge	Cemeteries	0.08
OS14	Mint Street Park	Bankside, Borough and London Bridge	Small Local Park	0.92
OS15	Redcross Gardens	Bankside, Borough and London Bridge	Pocket Park	0.14
OS16	Little Dorrit Park	Bankside, Borough and London Bridge	Pocket Park	0.31
OS17	Marlborough Playground	Bankside, Borough and London Bridge	Pocket Park	0.33
OS18	St George's Churchyard and Gardens	Bankside, Borough and London Bridge	Cemeteries	0.42
OS19	Guy Street Park	Bankside, Borough and London Bridge	Small Local Park	0.39
OS20	Leathermarket Gardens	Bankside, Borough and London Bridge	Small Local Park	1.15
OS21	Snowsfield Nature Garden	Bankside, Borough and London Bridge	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	0.13
OS22	Bermondsey Playground	Bankside, Borough and London Bridge	Small Local Park	0.85
OS23	St John's Churchyard	Bankside, Borough and London Bridge	Cemeteries	0.95
OS24	Dr Salter's Playground	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Provision for young people and teenagers	0.22
OS25	Cherry Gardens	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Linear Open Space	0.31
OS26	Angel Public House	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Civic Spaces	0.06
OS27	King Edward III Manor House	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Other	0.31
OS28	King's Stairs Gardens	Canada Water	Small Local Park	3.46
OS29	Hope Sufferance Wharf	Canada Water	Civic Spaces	0.01

Site ID	Name of Space	Sub-Area	Typology	Size (ha)
OS30	St Mary's Churchyard, Rotherhithe	Canada Water	Cemeteries	0.27
OS31	St Mary's Churchyard Gardens	Canada Water	Pocket Park	0.37
OS32	Knot Garden	Canada Water	Civic Spaces	0.06
OS33	Brunel Pump House	Canada Water	Civic Spaces	0.12
OS34	Deal Porter's Walk	Canada Water	Linear Open Space	0.58
OS35	Albion Channel	Canada Water	Civic Spaces	1.16
OS36	Stave Hill	Canada Water	Small Local Park	0.69
OS37	Stave Hill Ecological Park	Canada Water	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	2.23
OS38	Russia Dock Woodlands	Canada Water	District Park	10.80
OS39	Holy Trinity Churchyard	Canada Water	Cemeteries	0.61
OS40	Durand's Wharf	Canada Water	Small Local Park	0.97
OS41	Surrey Docks Farm	Canada Water	Other	0.89
OS42	Newington Gardens	Elephant and Castle	Small Local Park	1.32
OS43	Trinity Church Square	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Cemeteries	0.10
OS44	Dickens Square	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Small Local Park	1.20
OS45	Merrick Square	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Pocket Park	0.14
OS46	Tabard Gardens	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Local Park	1.75
OS47	Hankey Place Gardens	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Pocket Park	0.08
OS48	Long Lane Park	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Pocket Park	0.14
OS49	St Mary Magdalen Churchyard	Bankside, Borough and London Bridge	Cemeteries	0.70
OS50	Bermondsey Square	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Amenity space	0.02
OS51	Beormond Environs Open Space.	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Small Local Park	0.11
OS52	St James' Churchyard	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Small Local Park	0.76
OS53	Southwark Park	Canada Water	Metropolitan Park	26.57
OS54	King George's Field Park	Canada Water	Small Local Park	0.66
OS55	Canada Water	Canada Water	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	2.36
OS56	Geraldine Mary Harmsworth Park	Elephant and Castle	Local Park	5.94
OS57	West Square Garden	Elephant and Castle	Pocket Park	0.36
OS58	Falmouth Road Community Garden	Elephant and Castle	Pocket Park	0.19
OS59	David Copperfield Gardens	Elephant and Castle	Linear Open Space	0.22
OS60	Swanmead	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Small Local Park	0.46
OS61	Bermondsey Spa Park	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Small Local Park	1.59
OS62	Lucey Way/Alexis Street	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Small Local Park	1.05

Site ID	Name of Space	Sub-Area	Typology	Size (ha)
OS63	Aspinden Road Nature Garden	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	0.04
OS64	Greenland Dock	Canada Water	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	11.16
OS65	South Dock	Canada Water	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	2.76
OS66	Lamlash Street Allotments	Elephant and Castle	Allotments	0.15
OS67	St Mary's Churchyard, Newington	Elephant and Castle	Small Local Park	0.63
OS68	Victory Community Park	Elephant and Castle	Small Local Park	0.51
OS69	Paragon Gardens	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Pocket Park	0.59
OS70	Salisbury Row Park	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Small Local Park	1.14
OS71	St Anne's Churchyard	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Cemeteries	0.19
OS72	St James' Road Allotments	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Allotments	0.28
OS73	Shuttleworth Park	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Pocket Park	0.27
OS74	Galleywell Road Nature Garden	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	0.08
OS75	Pullens Gardens	Elephant and Castle	Pocket Park	0.34
OS76	Nursery Row Park	Elephant and Castle	Small Local Park	1.45
OS77	Surrey Square Park	Aylesbury & Walworth	Small Local Park	1.39
OS78	Paterson Park (Western part)	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Small Local Park	0.52
OS79	The Stables	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Other	0.33
OS80	South Bermondsey Railway Embankments	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	2.29
OS81	Walworth Garden Farm	Aylesbury & Walworth	Allotments	0.17
OS82	Surrey Gardens	Aylesbury & Walworth	Small Local Park	1.56
OS83	Sutherland Square	Aylesbury & Walworth	Pocket Park	0.04
OS84	Pelier Park	Aylesbury & Walworth	Pocket Park	0.28
OS85	Faraday Gardens	Aylesbury & Walworth	Small Local Park	1.23
OS86	St Peter's Churchyard	Aylesbury & Walworth	Cemeteries	0.36
OS87	Evelina Lowe Nature Garden	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Pocket Park	0.19
OS88	Bramcote Play Area	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Provision for young people and teenagers	0.18
OS89	Varcoe Road Nature Garden	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Pocket Park	0.19
OS90	Forsyth Gardens	Aylesbury & Walworth	Small Local Park	0.45
OS91	Burgess Park	Aylesbury & Walworth	District Park	47.62
OS92	Kennington Park	Camberwell	Small Local Park	1.47

Site ID	Name of Space	Sub-Area	Typology	Size (ha)
OS93	Bethwin Road Open Space	Camberwell	Small Local Park	0.41
OS94	Leyton Square	Peckham & Nunhead	Small Local Park	1.03
OS95	Bird-in-Bush Park	Peckham & Nunhead	Small Local Park	0.48
OS96	Caroline Gardens	Peckham & Nunhead	Amenity space	0.47
OS97	Benhill Road Nature Garden	Camberwell	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	0.21
OS98	Surrey Canal Walk	Peckham & Nunhead	Linear Open Space	3.82
OS99	Brimmington Park	Peckham & Nunhead	Small Local Park	1.79
OS100	Camberwell Green	Camberwell	Small Local Park	0.89
OS101	Brunswick Park	Camberwell	Local Park	1.60
OS102	Sumner Park	Peckham & Nunhead	Pocket Park	0.37
OS103	Goldsmith Road Nature Garden	Peckham & Nunhead	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	0.09
OS104	St Giles' Churchyard	Camberwell	Small Local Park	1.05
OS105	Lucas Gardens	Camberwell	Small Local Park	1.73
OS106	Bellenden Road Tree Nursery	Peckham & Nunhead	Allotments	0.07
OS107	Cossall Park	Peckham & Nunhead	Local Park	1.12
OS108	Nunhead Railway Embankments	Peckham & Nunhead	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	4.97
OS109	St Mary Frobisher Gardens	Peckham & Nunhead	Pocket Park	0.14
OS110	Grove Park and East Dulwich Railway cuttings and embankments	Camberwell	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	10.41
OS111	Warwick Gardens	Peckham & Nunhead	Small Local Park	1.53
OS112	Highshore Open Space	Peckham & Nunhead	Pocket Park	0.09
OS113	Holly Grove Shrubbery	Peckham & Nunhead	Linear Open Space	0.32
OS114	Lettsom Gardens	Camberwell	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	0.63
OS115	McDermott Grove Nature Garden	Peckham & Nunhead	Allotments	0.13
OS116	Consort Park	Peckham & Nunhead	Pocket Park	0.34
OS117	Dr Harold Moody Park	Peckham & Nunhead	Small Local Park	0.51
OS118	Nunhead Green	Peckham & Nunhead	Pocket Park	0.28
OS119	Dog Kennel Hill Open Space and Adventure Playground	Camberwell	Small Local Park	1.24
OS120	St. Francis' Park	Camberwell	Small Local Park	0.92
OS121	London Wildlife Trust Centre for Wildlife Gardening.	Camberwell	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	0.22

Site ID	Name of Space	Sub-Area	Typology	Size (ha)
OS122	Goose Green Common	Camberwell	Small Local Park	1.51
OS123	Goose Green Playground	Peckham & Nunhead	Small Local Park	0.40
OS124	Peckham Rye Park and Common and Piermont Green	Peckham & Nunhead	Metropolitan Park	42.75
OS125	Nunhead Reservoir	Peckham & Nunhead	Other	3.87
OS126	Nunhead Cemetery	Peckham & Nunhead	Cemeteries	20.37
OS127	Ivydale Road Playing Field	Peckham & Nunhead	Outdoor Sports Facilities - education	6.20
OS128	Greendale Playing Field	Camberwell	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	2.12
OS129	Greendale Artificial Playing Pitch	Camberwell	Outdoor Sports Facilities - private	1.04
OS130	Dulwich Hamlet	Camberwell	Outdoor Sports Facilities - private	0.80
OS131	The Gardens Square	Dulwich	Amenity space	0.33
OS132	Water Works	Peckham & Nunhead	Other	0.25
OS133	Nunhead Allotments	Peckham & Nunhead	Allotments	3.46
OS134	Nairne Grove Nature Garden	Camberwell	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	0.11
OS135	James Allens Girls School Playing Fields	Camberwell	Outdoor Sports Facilities - education	4.64
OS136	Charter School	Camberwell	Outdoor Sports Facilities - education	4.14
OS137	Waverley School	Peckham & Nunhead	Outdoor Sports Facilities - education	1.46
OS138	Sunray Gardens	Dulwich	Small Local Park	1.58
OS139	James Allens Girls Schools Sports Club	Camberwell	Outdoor Sports Facilities - education	1.50
OS140	Alleyn School Playing Field (North of Townley Road)	Dulwich	Outdoor Sports Facilities - education	4.99
OS141	Friern Road Allotments	Dulwich	Allotments	0.17
OS142	Homestall Road Playing Field	Peckham & Nunhead	Outdoor Sports Facilities - private	1.73
OS143	Aquarius Golf Course	Peckham & Nunhead	Outdoor Sports Facilities - private	13.31
OS144	Brenchley Gardens	Peckham & Nunhead	Small Local Park	3.53

Site ID	Name of Space	Sub-Area	Typology	Size (ha)
OS145	Camberwell New Cemetery and Grounds	Peckham & Nunhead	Cemeteries	17.72
OS146	Herne Hill Cycle Stadium and Sports Ground	Dulwich	Outdoor Sports Facilities - private	8.32
OS147	Alleyn School Playing Pitch (Carlton Avenue)	Dulwich	Outdoor Sports Facilities - education	3.87
OS148	Plough Lane Pond	Dulwich	Other	0.04
OS149	Camberwell Old Cemetery	Dulwich	Cemeteries	11.85
OS150	One Tree Hill	Peckham & Nunhead	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	6.95
OS151	Honor Oak Allotments	Peckham & Nunhead	Allotments	2.21
OS152	Honor Oak Sports Ground	Peckham & Nunhead	Local Park	5.06
OS153	Burbage Road Playing Fields	Dulwich	Outdoor Sports Facilities - private	6.23
OS154	Dulwich Library Garden	Dulwich	Greenspaces within grounds of institution	0.34
OS155	Dawson's Hill/Dawson Heights	Dulwich	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	2.80
OS156	Sydenham Hill Railway Cuttings	Dulwich	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	9.39
OS157	Dulwich College Playing Fields and Sports Grounds (Turney Road and West Gallery Road)	Dulwich	Outdoor Sports Facilities - education	14.93
OS158	Dulwich Picture Gallery Grounds	Dulwich	Greenspaces within grounds of institution	2.36
OS159	Dulwich Park	Dulwich	Metropolitan Park	30.85
OS160	Belair Park	Dulwich	Local Park	10.60
OS161	Dulwich College Playing Fields and Sports Ground (East Gallery Road)	Dulwich	Outdoor Sports Facilities - education	4.66
OS162	Southwark Sports Ground	Dulwich	Outdoor Sports Facilities - private	2.63
OS163	Barclay Way	Dulwich	Amenity space	0.39
OS164	Mill Pond	Dulwich	Greenspaces within grounds of institution	0.86
OS165	Pynners Close Playing Field	Dulwich	Outdoor Sports Facilities - private	3.83

Site ID	Name of Space	Sub-Area	Typology	Size (ha)
OS166	Old Alleynian's Sports Ground	Dulwich	Outdoor Sports Facilities - education	5.17
OS167	Honor Oak and Tulse Hill Playing Fields / Sports Grounds	Dulwich	Outdoor Sports Facilities - private	4.59
OS168	Dulwich Common Allotments and Tennis Club	Dulwich	Outdoor Sports Facilities - private	2.20
OS169	Dulwich Common Sports Ground and Cricket Club	Dulwich	Outdoor Sports Facilities - private	3.60
OS170	St Peter's Churchyard (Lordship Lane)	Dulwich	Cemeteries	0.45
OS171	Dulwich College	Dulwich	Outdoor Sports Facilities - education	17.49
OS172	Dulwich College Sports Ground (North Grange Road)	Dulwich	Outdoor Sports Facilities - education	8.34
OS173	Dulwich and Sydenham Hill Golf Club	Dulwich	Outdoor Sports Facilities - private	33.22
OS174	Cox's Walk	Dulwich	Linear Open Space	1.08
OS175	Cox's walk Allotments	Dulwich	Allotments	0.94
OS176	Mary Datchelor Playing Field	Dulwich	Outdoor Sports Facilities - education	4.25
OS177	College Sports Ground (South Grange Road)	Dulwich	Outdoor Sports Facilities - education	4.75
OS178	Grange Road Allotments (South)	Dulwich	Allotments	4.25
OS179	The Fort Camping Ground	Dulwich	Provision for young people and teenagers	2.99
OS180	Grange Road Allotments (North)	Dulwich	Allotments	3.05
OS181	Sydenham Hill and Dulwich Woods	Dulwich	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	28.46
OS182	Kingswood House	Dulwich	Greenspace within grounds of institution	0.98
OS183	Countisbury House Lawns (Dulwich)	Dulwich	Amenity space	0.18
OS184	Long Meadow	Dulwich	Amenity space	1.46
OS185	Carlton Place Copse/ Hitherwood	Dulwich	Pocket Park	0.37

Site ID	Name of Space	Sub-Area	Typology	Size (ha)
OS186	Gipsy Hill Railway Cutting	Dulwich	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	1.25
OS187	Dulwich Upper Wood	Dulwich	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	1.75
OS188	College Road	Dulwich	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	0.40
375	Central Venture Park	Peckham & Nunhead	Provision for young people and teenagers	0.23
376	Central Venture Park Playground	Peckham & Nunhead	Provision for young people and teenagers	0.22
377	Calypso Gardens	Peckham & Nunhead	Pocket Park	0.23
392	Caspian Street Allotments	Camberwell	Allotments	0.12
393	Grove Park Allotments	Peckham & Nunhead	Allotments	0.25
397	Dunston Roads Allotments	Dulwich	Allotments	0.09
400	Bonar Road Allotments	Camberwell	Allotments	0.27
401	Aylesbury Road Allotments	Aylesbury & Walworth	Allotments	0.10
409	Fielding Street Allotments	Aylesbury & Walworth	Allotments	0.16
410	Alscot Road Allotments	Bermondsey & Old Kent Road	Allotments	0.09
AW1	Lorrimore Square Gardens	Aylesbury & Walworth	Small Local Park	0.49
BB1	Montague Close Open Space	Bankside, Borough and London Bridge	Pocket Park	0.10
BB2	Crossbones Graveyard	Bankside, Borough and London Bridge	Other	0.75
BB3	Tate Garden	Bankside, Borough and London Bridge	Natural and semi-natural greenspace	0.05
CW1	St Pauls Sports Ground	Canada Water	Outdoor Sports Facilities - education	1.78
CW2	The former nursery	Canada Water	Natural or semi-natural greenspaces	0.34
CW3	Cumberland Wharf	Canada Water	Pocket Park	0.04
CW4	Surrey Docks Adventure Playground	Canada Water	Provision for young people and teenagers	0.41
CW5	Neptune Street Park	Canada Water	Pocket Park	0.10
EC1	Carter Place	Elephant and Castle	Other	0.05
EC2	Diversity Garden	Elephant and Castle	Natural and semi-natural greenspaces	0.05
PN1	Jowett Street Park	Peckham & Nunhead	Small Local Park	0.84

Site ID	Name of Space	Sub-Area	Typology	Size (ha)
PN2	Lyndhurst Square	Peckham & Nunhead	Amenity Greenspace	0.03
PN3	Montague Square	Peckham & Nunhead	Pocket Park	0.11
PN4	Brayards Green	Peckham & Nunhead	Amenity Greenspace	0.71
PN5	Buchan Hall Sports Pitch	Peckham & Nunhead	Outdoor Sports Facilities - private	0.06
PN6	Kirkwood Road Nature Garden	Peckham & Nunhead	Small Local Park	0.25
D1	The Spinney	Dulwich	Natural and semi-natural greenspace	0.08

Appendix 2 – Open space planning designations

Site ID	Name of Space	Level of Open Space protection	Site of Importance for Nature Conservation
OS1	Christchurch Gardens	Borough Open Land	
OS2	Paris Gardens	Borough Open Land	
OS3	Cathedral Precinct	Borough Open Land	
OS4	Potter's Field Park	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS5	Surrey Water	Borough Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 1)
OS6	Surrey Docks Sports Ground (Pitch 1)	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS7	Surrey Docks Sports Ground (Pitches 2&3)	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS8	Lavender Pond	Metropolitan Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 1)
OS9	Pearson Park	Borough Open Land	
OS10	Nelson Square Gardens	Borough Open Land	
OS11	Grotto Podiums	Other Open Space	
OS12	Grotto Open space	Borough Open Land	
OS13	All Hallows Churchyard	Borough Open Land	
OS14	Mint Street Park	Borough Open Land	
OS15	Redcross Gardens	Borough Open Land	
OS16	Little Dorrit Park	Borough Open Land	
OS17	Marlborough Playground	Borough Open Land	
OS18	St George's Churchyard and Gardens	Borough Open Land	
OS19	Guy Street Park	Borough Open Land	
OS20	Leathermarket Gardens	Borough Open Land	Local Importance
OS21	Snowsfield Nature Garden	Borough Open Land	Local Importance
OS22	Bermondsey Playground	Borough Open Land	
OS23	St John's Churchyard	Borough Open Land	
OS24	Dr Salter's Playground	Other Open Space	
OS25	Cherry Gardens	Borough Open Land	
OS26	Angel Public House	Other Open Space	
OS27	King Edward III Manor House	Other Open Space	
OS28	King's Stairs Gardens	Metropolitan Open Land	Local Importance
OS29	Hope Sufferance Wharf	Other Open Space	
OS30	St Mary's Churchyard, Rotherhithe	Borough Open Land	
OS31	St Mary's Churchyard Gardens	Borough Open Land	Local Importance
OS32	Knot Garden	Other Open Space	
OS33	Brunel Pump House	Borough Open Land	
OS34	Deal Porter's Walk	Borough Open Land	Local Importance
OS35	Albion Channel	Borough Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 1)
OS36	Stave Hill	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS37	Stave Hill Ecological Park	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS38	Russia Dock Woodlands	Metropolitan Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 1)
OS39	Holy Trinity Churchyard	Borough Open Land	

Site ID	Name of Space	Level of Open Space protection	Site of Importance for Nature Conservation
OS40	Durand's Wharf	Borough Open Land	Local Importance
OS41	Surrey Docks Farm	Borough Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 2)
OS42	Newington Gardens	Borough Open Land	
OS43	Trinity Church Square	Borough Open Land	
OS44	Dickens Square	Borough Open Land	Local Importance
OS45	Merrick Square	Borough Open Land	
OS46	Tabard Gardens	Borough Open Land	Local Importance
OS47	Hankey Place Gardens	Other Open Space	
OS48	Long Lane Park	Borough Open Land	
OS49	St Mary Magdalen Churchyard	Borough Open Land	Local Importance
OS50	Bermondsey Square	Other Open Space	
OS51	Beormond Environs Open Space.	Other Open Space	
OS52	St James' Churchyard	Borough Open Land	
OS53	Southwark Park	Metropolitan Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 2)
OS54	King George's Field Park	Borough Open Land	
OS55	Canada Water	Borough Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 1)
OS56	Geraldine Mary Harmsworth Park	Metropolitan Open Land	Local Importance
OS57	West Square Garden	Borough Open Land	
OS58	Falmouth Road Community Garden	Other Open Space	
OS59	David Copperfield Gardens	Borough Open Land	
OS60	Swanmead	Other Open Space	
OS61	Bermondsey Spa Park	Borough Open Land	
OS62	Lukey Way/Alexis Street	Other Open Space	
OS63	Aspinden Road Nature Garden	Borough Open Land	Local Importance
OS64	Greenland Dock	Borough Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 2)
OS65	South Dock	Borough Open Land	
OS66	Lamlash Street Allotments	Other Open Space	
OS67	St Mary's Churchyard, Newington	Borough Open Land	
OS68	Victory Community Park	Borough Open Land	Local Importance
OS69	Paragon Gardens	Borough Open Land	
OS70	Salisbury Row Park	Other Open Space	
OS71	St Anne's Churchyard	Borough Open Land	
OS72	St James' Road Allotments	Other Open Space	
OS73	Shuttleworth Park	Other Open Space	
OS74	Galleywell Road Nature Garden	Borough Open Land	Local Importance
OS75	Pullens Gardens	Other Open Space	
OS76	Nursery Row Park	Other Open Space	
OS77	Surrey Square Park	Borough Open Land	Local Importance
OS78	Patterson Park (Western part)	Other Open Space	
OS79	The Stables	Other Open Space	

Site ID	Name of Space	Level of Open Space protection	Site of Importance for Nature Conservation
OS80	South Bermondsey Railway Embankments	Borough Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 2)
OS81	Walworth Garden Farm	Borough Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 1)
OS82	Surrey Gardens	Borough Open Land	Local Importance
OS83	Sutherland Square	Borough Open Land	
OS84	Pelier Park	Other Open Space	
OS85	Faraday Gardens	Borough Open Land	
OS86	St Peter's Churchyard	Borough Open Land	
OS87	Evelina Lowe Nature Garden	Other Open Space	
OS88	Bramcote Play Area	Other Open Space	
OS89	Varcoe Road Nature Garden	Borough Open Land	Local Importance
OS90	Forsyth Gardens	Other Open Space	
OS91	Burgess Park	Metropolitan Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 2)
OS92	Kennington Park	Borough Open Land	
OS93	Bethwin Road Open Space	Other Open Space	
OS94	Leyton Square	Borough Open Land	
OS95	Bird-in-Bush Park	Borough Open Land	Local Importance
OS96	Caroline Gardens	Borough Open Land	
OS97	Benhill Road Nature Garden	Borough Open Land	Local Importance
OS98	Surrey Canal Walk	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS99	Brimmington Park	Borough Open Land	
OS100	Camberwell Green	Borough Open Land	
OS101	Brunswick Park	Borough Open Land	
OS102	Sumner Park	Other Open Space	
OS103	Goldsmith Road Nature Garden	Borough Open Land	Local Importance
OS104	St Giles' Churchyard	Borough Open Land	
OS105	Lucas Gardens	Borough Open Land	Local Importance
OS106	Bellenden Road Tree Nursery	Borough Open Land	Local Importance
OS107	Cossall Park	Other Open Space	
OS108	Nunhead Railway Embankments	Borough Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 2)
OS109	St Mary Frobisher Gardens	Other Open Space	
OS110	Grove Park and East Dulwich Railway cuttings and embankments	Borough Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 2)
OS111	Warwick Gardens	Borough Open Land	
OS112	Highshore Open Space	Borough Open Land	Local Importance
OS113	Holly Grove Shrubbery	Borough Open Land	
OS114	Lettsom Gardens	Borough Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 2)
OS115	McDermott Grove Nature Garden	Borough Open Land	Local Importance
OS116	Consort Park	Borough Open Land	Local Importance
OS117	Dr Harold Moody Park	Other Open Space	
OS118	Nunhead Green	Borough Open Land	

Site ID	Name of Space	Level of Open Space protection	Site of Importance for Nature Conservation
OS119	Dog Kennel Hill Open Space and Adventure Playground	Metropolitan Open Land	Local Importance
OS120	St. Francis' Park	Other Open Space	
OS121	London Wildlife Trust Centre for Wildlife Gardening.	Borough Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 1)
OS122	Goose Green Common	Borough Open Land	
OS123	Goose Green Playground	Other Open Space	
OS124	Peckham Rye Park and Common and Piermont Green	Metropolitan Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 1)
OS125	Nunhead Reservoir	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS126	Nunhead Cemetery	Metropolitan Open Land	Metropolitan Importance
OS127	Ivydale Road Playing Field	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS128	Greendale Playing Field	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS129	Greendale Artificial Playing Pitch	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS130	Dulwich Hamlet	Other Open Space	
OS131	The Gardens Square	Borough Open Land	
OS132	Water Works	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS133	Nunhead Allotments	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS134	Nairne Grove Nature Garden	Borough Open Land	Local Importance
OS135	James Allens Girls School Playing Fields	Metropolitan Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 2)
OS136	Charter School	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS137	Waverley School	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS138	Sunray Gardens	Borough Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 2)
OS139	James Allens Girls Schools Sports Club	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS140	Alleyn School Playing Field (North of Townley Road)	Metropolitan Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 2)
OS141	Friern Road Allotments	Other Open Space	
OS142	Homestall Road Playing Field	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS143	Aquarius Golf Course	Metropolitan Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 2)
OS144	Brenchley Gardens	Metropolitan Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 2)
OS145	Camberwell New Cemetery and Grounds	Metropolitan Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 2)
OS146	Herne Hill Cycle Stadium and Sports Ground	Metropolitan Open Land	Local Importance
OS147	Alleyn School Playing Pitch (Carlton Avenue)	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS148	Plough Lane Pond	Borough Open Land	Local Importance
OS149	Camberwell Old Cemetery	Metropolitan Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 1)
OS150	One Tree Hill	Metropolitan Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 1)
OS151	Honor Oak Allotments	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS152	Honor Oak Sports Ground	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS153	Burbage Road Playing Fields	Metropolitan Open Land	

Site ID	Name of Space	Level of Open Space protection	Site of Importance for Nature Conservation
OS154	Dulwich Library Garden	Borough Open Land	
OS155	Dawson's Hill/Dawson Heights	Metropolitan Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 2)
OS156	Sydenham Hill Railway Cuttings	Metropolitan Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 2)
OS157	Dulwich College Playing Fields and Sports Grounds (Turney Road and West Gallery Road)	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS158	Dulwich Picture Gallery Grounds	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS159	Dulwich Park	Metropolitan Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 1)
OS160	Belair Park	Metropolitan Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 2)
OS161	Dulwich College Playing Fields and Sports Ground (East Gallery Road)	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS162	Southwark Sports Ground	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS163	Barclay Way	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS164	Mill Pond	Metropolitan Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 2)
OS165	Pynners Close Playing Field	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS166	Old Alleynian's Sports Ground	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS167	Honor Oak and Tulse Hill Playing Fields / Sports Grounds	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS168	Dulwich Common Allotments and Tennis Club	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS169	Dulwich Common Sports Ground and Cricket Club	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS170	St Peter's Churchyard (Lordship Lane)	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS171	Dulwich College	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS172	Dulwich College Sports Ground (North Grange Road)	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS173	Dulwich and Sydenham Hill Golf Club	Metropolitan Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 1)
OS174	Cox's Walk	Metropolitan Open Land	Metropolitan Importance
OS175	Cox's walk Allotments	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS176	Mary Datchelor Playing Field	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS177	College Sports Ground (South Grange Road)	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS178	Grange Road Allotments (South)	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS179	The Fort Camping Ground	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS180	Grange Road Allotments (North)	Metropolitan Open Land	
OS181	Sydenham Hill and Dulwich Woods	Metropolitan Open Land	Metropolitan Importance
OS182	Kingswood House	Borough Open Land	
OS183	Countisbury House Lawns (Dulwich)	Metropolitan Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 2)
OS184	Long Meadow	Other Open Space	
OS185	Carlton Place Copse/Hitherwood	Metropolitan Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 2)
OS186	Gipsy Hill Railway Cutting	Borough Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 2)
OS187	Dulwich Upper Wood	Metropolitan Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 1)
OS188	College Road	Metropolitan Open Land	Borough Importance (Grade 1)

Site ID	Name of Space	Level of Open Space protection	Site of Importance for Nature Conservation
CW1	St Pauls Sports Ground	Allocated in the Canada Water AAP for open space	
CW2	Former Nursery	Allocated in the Canada Water AAP for open space	
375	Central Venture Park	Recommended for protection as Borough Open Land	
377	Calyпсо Gardens	Recommended for protection as Other Open Space	
392	Caspian Street Allotments	Recommended for protection as Other Open Space	
393	Grove Park Allotments		
397	Dunstans Roads Allotments	Recommended for protection as Other Open Space	
400	Bonar Road Allotments		
401	Aylesbury Road Allotments	Recommended for protection as Other Open Space	
409	Fielding Street Allotments	Recommended for protection as Other Open Space	
410	Alscot Road Allotments	Recommended for protection as Other Open Space	
AW1	Lorrimore Square Gardens	Recommended for protection as Borough Open Land	
BB1	Montague Close Open Space	Recommended for protection as Other Open Space	
BB2	Crossbones Graveyard	Recommended for protection as Other Open Space	
BB3	Tate Garden	Recommended for protection as Other Open Space	
CW1	St Paul's Sports Ground	Allocated in the Canada Water AAP for open space	
CW2	Former Nursery	Allocated in the Canada Water AAP for open space	
CW3	Cumberland Wharf	Recommended for protection as Other Open Space	
CW4	Surrey Docks Adventure Playground	Recommended for protection as Other Open Space	
CW5	Neptune Street Park	Recommended for protection as Other Open Space	
EC1	Carter Place	Recommended for protection as Other Open Space	
BB4	Diversity Garden	Recommended for protection as Other Open Space	
PN1	Jowett Street Park	Recommended for protection as Borough Open Land	

Site ID	Name of Space	Level of Open Space protection	Site of Importance for Nature Conservation
PN2	Lyndhurst Square	Recommended for protection as Other Open Space	
PN3	Montague Square	Recommended for protection as Other Open Space	
PN4	Brayards Green	Recommended for protection as Other Open Space	
PN5	Buchan Hall Sports Pitch	Recommended for protection as Other Open Space	
PN6	Kirkwood Road Nature Garden	Recommended for protection as Borough Open Land	
D1	The Spinney	Recommended for protection as Metropolitan Borough Open Land	

Key

-  Borough sub-areas
-  Green chain link
-  Below average value
-  Below average quality
-  Pocket park
-  Small local park
-  Local park
-  District park
-  Metropolitan park
-  Amenity space
-  Allotments
-  Developed site
-  Cemeteries
-  Civic spaces
-  Linear open space
-  New or improved green links
-  Other
-  Greenspaces within grounds of institution
-  Natural or semi-natural greenspaces
-  Outdoor sports facilities - education
-  Outdoor sports facilities - public
-  Outdoor sports facilities - private
-  Provision for young people and teenagers
-  Outside 280m park catchment area

Contact us

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